

Hafa Adai!

Charges vs Ogumoro's ex-cop girlfriend are dismissed. » **PAGE 2**

Dynamic suspends Hong Kong-Saipan flights. » **PAGE 19**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXV, Issue No. 231

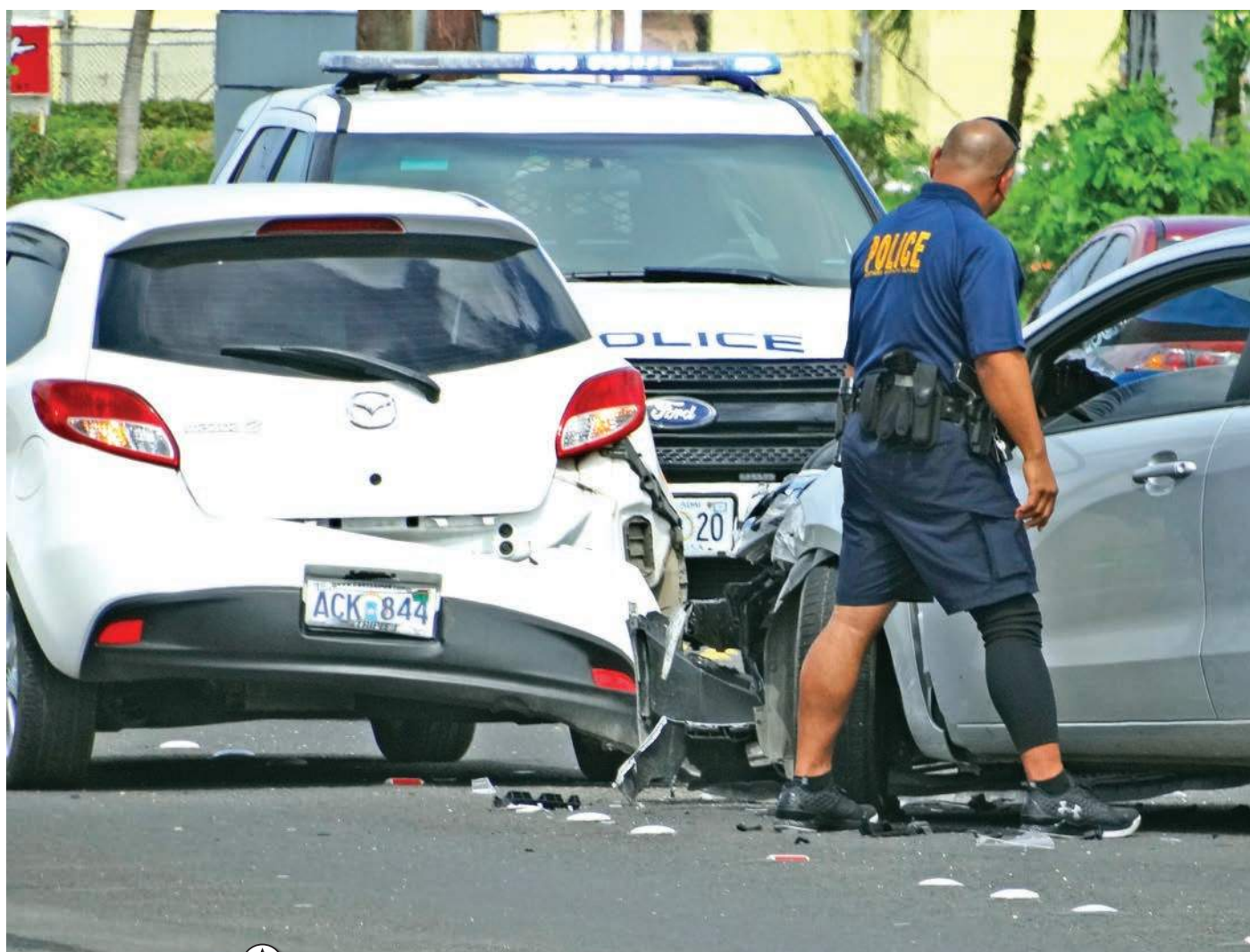
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75¢

RFP for Mariana Resort land out



By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» **Pete A. says 'robust' competition is expected**

The Department of Public Lands opens today a competitive bid process to lease public lands currently held by Mariana Resort and Spa in Marpi, moving forward with a decision that the Japanese hotel owner has criticized as a breach of contract by the government.

See RFP on **Page 4**

In-Fa expected to go south of Guam

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management continues to monitor a tropical storm that is moving toward south of the Marianas.

» **Expect winds and rain in the CNMI**

In-fa was tracked to go south of Guam and, after an earlier weakening, was expected to re-intensify into a typhoon last night,

"There's a possibility that it might change but the meteorologists are pretty confident in their models that it's going to go past south of Guam," HSEM deputy special assistant Gerald Deleon Guerrero said. "Let's just hope and pray that it continues to go south of Guam," he added.

Tropical Storm In-fa has maximum sustained winds of 65 miles per hour. Tropical storm force winds extend out-

See IN-FA on **Page 4**

FENDER BENDER

Two cars collide near XO Market on Middle Road, Gualo Rai just after the lunchtime rush hour. It was not immediately learned if anyone was hurt in the accident

DAISY DEMAPAN

ACG, shipping firm ink MOU for ferries between Saipan, Tinian

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Alter City Group, an investor

that plans to build a casino resort on Tinian, signed yesterday a memorandum of understanding with the Chu Kong Passen-

ger Transport Company Ltd. to develop a ferry system between Saipan and Tinian.

Acting governor Ralph Tor-

res signed the agreement as a witness after a presentation at the Office of the Governor's conference room on Capital

Hill yesterday.

Peng Dong, director and general manager of Chu Kong,

See ACG on **Page 4**

INSIDE



LOCAL

A Commonwealth Utilities Corp. crew unearths a major water leak in Koblerville.

» **PAGE 5**



ASIA

Asia-Pacific leaders call for increased cooperation in the fight against terrorism.

» **PAGE 21**



WORLD

The hunt for the Paris attacks mastermind takes a bloody turn to a Paris suburb.

» **PAGE 22**



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Local

Charges vs Ogumoro girlfriend dismissed

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman dismissed yesterday the corruption charges against Katherine M. Manglona, a former police officer who is the girlfriend of former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogumoro.

Wiseman dismissed the charges of theft by unlawful taking or disposition, conspiracy to commit theft by unlawful taking or disposition, and misconduct in public office, after the Office of the Attorney General moved for the dismissal.

Assistant attorney general Matthew C. Baisley asked the court to dismiss without prejudice the charges against the 43-year-old Manglona. Dismissed without prejudice means

the government may re-file the charges in the future.

Baisley said the effect of the motion, as reflected in the second amended information, is that the charge of theft by unlawful taking or disposition remains active against the 57-year-old Ogumoro.

Baisley said the charges of conspiracy to commit theft by unlawful taking or disposition and misconduct in public office are dismissed without prejudice against Manglona and Ogumoro.

The prosecutor said the government believes that those counts should be dismissed in the interest of justice.

Manglona and Ogumoro did not object to the motion to dismiss. Colin Thompson is coun-

sel for Manglona.

Last April, then-chief prosecutor Leonardo Rapadas filed an information charging Ogumoro with two counts of conspiracy to commit theft by unlawful taking or disposition, four counts of misconduct in public office, two counts of theft by unlawful taking or disposition, and two counts of removal of government property.

The information charged Manglona with conspiracy to commit theft by unlawful taking or disposition and theft by unlawful taking or disposition.

Manglona's brother, Herman Manglona, was charged with conspiracy to commit theft by unlawful taking or disposition and receiving stolen property.

According to the allegations, Ogumoro brought a 1995 Toyota four-door Tercel that belonged to DPS to a shop for repairs using DPS funds totaling \$2,500 in 2012 and then sold the vehicle as "scrap" for only \$50 to Herman Manglona.

Ogumoro and Katherine Manglona also allegedly instructed a DPS staff to bring a DPS desktop computer to a shop for repair using DPS funding in the amount of \$276. The computer was allegedly later used in the office at True North Bar & Grill, which is owned by Ogumoro. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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Kilili lauds Customs Division for its anti-drug efforts

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) honored the CNMI Division of Customs yesterday for their diligence against the spread of methamphetamine, or "ice," in the Commonwealth, presenting division officials with a congressional commendation for the largest ice bust in CNMI history that took place last July.

"I am very grateful and happy. This is Congressman Kilili showing appreciation for our efforts at the ports of entry," Customs director Jose Mafnas told reporters. "The Customs officers will be very happy that they are recognized for their efforts. It will push us to do our job more effectively."

"I thank all of them," Sablan said, also noting efforts of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, Federal Bureau of Investiga-

See TINIAN on Page 4



Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan presents a congressional commendation yesterday to Division of Customs Director Jose Mafnas and Customs staff for their diligent work in fighting the war on crystal methamphetamine, or "ice" in the CNMI.

DENNIS B. CHAN

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IN-FA

From Page 1

ward up to 85 miles east of the center and up to 75 miles west of the center.

It was moving west-northwest at 18 mph and was expected to continue the same general movement through today, taking In-fa north of Ulul this morning.

Despite its distance from the CNMI, HSEM advised residents to expect strong trade winds of 15 to 25 mph with gusts to 30 mph ahead of Tropical Storm In-Fa.

No watches or warnings were in effect as of press time, but Deleon Guerrero said if there is a possibility of raising one it would be on Rota, which might experience some tropical storm force winds on Saturday mid-morning to afternoon, when In-fa is expected to be south of the Marianas.

"If anything, it's going to be Rota that's going to be affected," Deleon Guerrero

said. "But even now [National Weather Service] has not determined that Rota will get hit by this because it's going to be 200 miles south of Rota. So far their monitor's looking to be consistent."

Based on the track yesterday, Deleon Guerrero said Saipan and Tinian are too far away to be affected, but nevertheless may experience 4 to 6 inches of rain within a 24-hour period due to the approach of

the cyclone.

"We're going to be monitoring this closely in coordination with the National Weather Service," Deleon Guerrero said.

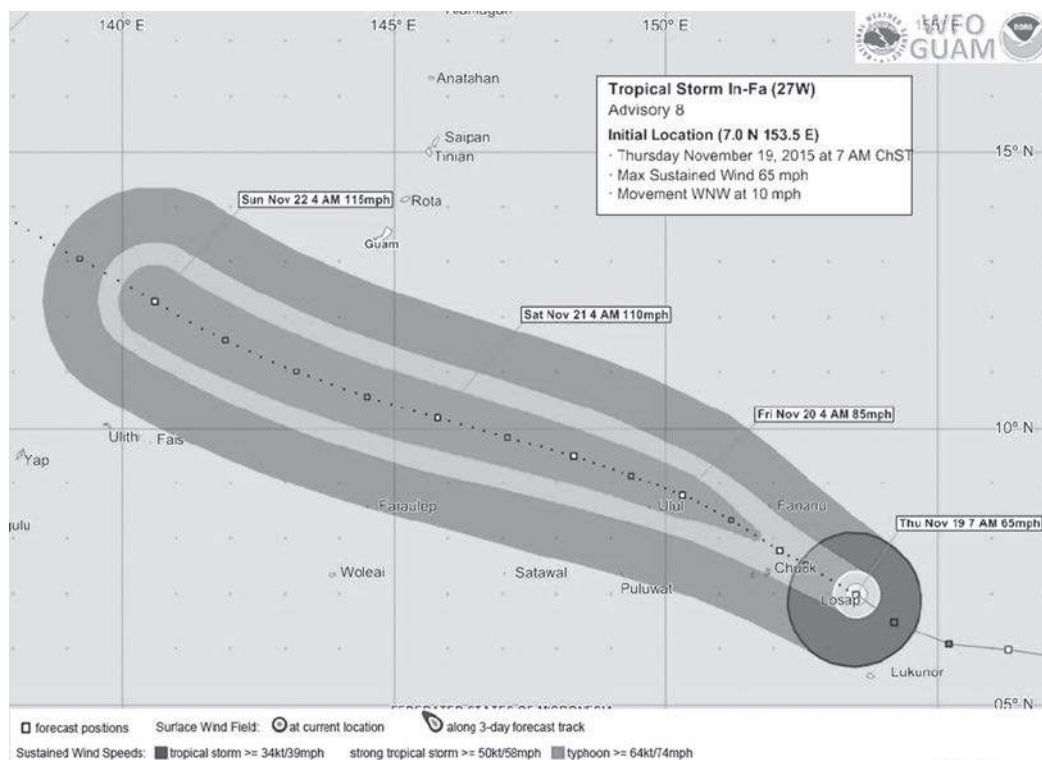
Even though In-fa is not expected to directly hit the Com-

monwealth, Deleon Guerrero advised the public to prepare and be ready, especially those who still have unrepaired homes or still live in temporary shelters such as tents.

"For now we're advising the public, most especially those people that are still un-

der the tent, to please secure your stuff, tie your tents a little tighter," Deleon Guerrero said.

"We don't anticipate opening of shelters but if there's any changes, if this goes north, then we will release something to the public that we'll open our shelters," he added.



KILILI

From Page 3

tion, and CNMI Department of Public Safety.

"I do acknowledge Customs because they are the ones who first made the interdiction. That's very important," Sablan added.

In July, Customs uncovered 12 kilos of ice in a 40-foot container from China. Mafnas said yesterday that the container was full of various violations, like pesticides, that he believed were meant to distract them from the 12 kilos of "ice"—an amount akin to a 25-lb bag of rice—that was hidden in an air compressor.

"When our law enforcement officers are able to prevent 12 kilos of crystal methamphetamine...from entering our community, we need to stop and say thank you," Sablan said.

Sablan also recently introduced legislation in Congress to allow the CNMI governor or Secretary of the Army to establish a National Guard unit. That unit, Sablan said, could be a partner in fighting drugs.

"The nice thing about this is that the Department of the Army will pay for that additional cost. It will not cost the Commonwealth, [or] the National Guard operational budget itself. It will be money set aside just for this additional work."

ACG

From Page 1

said the project is at "its initial stage."

Speaking through a translator, Dong said they recently visited Saipan and Tinian to conduct a site investigation—to collect information needed to develop in depth plans that they and Alter City Group will explore.

"We are working very closely with the Alter City Group. We hope we can provide the service as soon as possible," Dong said.

When asked, Dong said that based on their initial viewing, they plan to bring "at least two vessels" as part of ferry

services. Dong explained that one vessel would be a backup if the other is down.

"...Two is the minimum," Dong said.

Translating for Dong during their meeting, Alter City Group managing director Ken Lin told Torres that the shipping company has over 50 vessels in Guangdong, Hong Kong, and Macau, and conducts over 300 trips every day. They serve more than 10 million passengers a year, he said.

"Safety is most important for them," Lin added, noting that they abide by the International Safety Management Code.

The Chu Kong Passenger Transport Co., Ltd. is owned by Hong Kong Chu Kong

Shipping Enterprise (Holdings) Ltd. They operated for over 20 years in Hong Kong starting in 1985 and growing to provide service for more than 10 inland river ports plying in cities in China.

"After the visit in both Saipan and Tinian...I found that it was a good spot for a tourist industry," Dong told reporters after the meeting. "However, because now there is a lack of flights, [the industry is] not really intense right now. But there is a good future because more and more Chinese are coming here. ...They don't need a visa to come here."

"I believe that if there can be an advancement in the hotel facilities, transportation ar-

rangements, like water transport, airlines—if all these parts can be advanced then there will be a definite bright future for the area," Dong said.

Marianas shipping hub

Edvon Sze, ACG chief executive officer, said that Chu Kong Shipping is also interested in setting up a shipyard in the CNMI as a repair headquarters for vessels between Guam, Palau, Yap.

"This is going to be a maintenance hub for them to take care of the regional islands in the Pacific Ocean area," Sze said.

He said the vessels that Chu Kong Shipping would be using to service the Saipan-Tinian route would be bigger and

faster than previous ferries.

Sze said they aim to keep the fares low for locals and include ferry services where cars or trucks could "drive in" to provide convenient commute for locals traveling between the two islands.

Exploring options

Lin, the managing director for Alter City Group, told *Saipan Tribune* that they are partnering with the vessel company as they have a project on Tinian.

"We need actually to bring customers between the two islands," Lin said. "We are looking at different options. As you see before, with Aerobus [a planned interisland "air bridge"] and now the ferry.

We have also been talking to the airline carriers as well. We really want to find a way to actually link the islands."

For his part, Torres said he was there yesterday to witness the joint venture between the two investors, "knowing the issue of the transportation" between Saipan and Tinian.

"And now having the opportunity to have a new vessel again come back to the CNMI is a great opportunity and that will give the people of Tinian and Saipan and our tourist industry the opportunity to visit both islands. With this, I also see the opportunity to transport produce and eventually livestock," the acting governor told reporters.

RFP

From Page 1

The request for proposal announcement, which is on Page 16 of today's *Saipan Tribune* and signed by acting Public Lands Secretary Patricia Rasa, describes a bid for lots used for racecar tracks, mini golf courses, and the Marpi hotel itself, its cottages, villas, and maintenance and sports facilities, and other vacant lands held by Kan Pacific Saipan, the Japanese company that owns the resort.

In square meters, the total property amounts to 1.61 million square meters.

The Kan Pacific lease expires on April 30, 2018.

DPL's RFP announcement comes almost a week after Kan Pacific held a rally last Saturday to garner public support for an extension of their lease. That rally drew hundreds and was led by Kan Pacific founder Nauki Kitami, his nephew and now Kan Pacific president Yoshihiro Takami, and resort GM Gloria Cavanagh.

Cavanagh did not answer repeated calls to her phone after office hours last night.

Kan Pacific lawyer Joseph Iacopino had said in a letter to DPL last month that DPL was in no position to issue bids for their resort property. He said this would constitute a "breach" of the lease agreement between the hotel and the CNMI government.

According to copies of the 2003 amended lease agreement—copies of which were obtained by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday—"At least five years before the expiration of the lease extension term, the lessor shall inform the lessee whether it intends to initiate the transition of the management of the facilities to lessor."

Within 90 days of such notice, the lease states, parties must enter into a management and transition plan to train U.S. citizen workers to assume management.

"DPL was contractually obligated to give notice of intent," Iacopino said last month. "However, such notice was not given, the deadline

passed and, instead of giving such notice, DPL encouraged Kan Pacific to enter into subsequent lease with another 40-year term."

In that letter, Iacopino describes a timeline of negotiations between DPL and Kan Pacific in recent years that suffered "apparent interruption," blamed on Best Sunshine International Ltd., Saipan's exclusive casino licensee, who has since confirmed an aggressive pursuit of these Marpi lands.

"...It's a business. And we will be as heavily involved as we possibly can," Best Sunshine CEO Mark Brown told reporters last week.

"We are here on island and we have proven the type of business and type of neighbor that we are, so we are not going to sit back and watch someone else go in for the RFP," Brown said. "We will be right there side by side with whoever else is there."

Robust competition

In response to an Open Government Act request last month,

DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio said Best Sunshine and "others" have also indicated a desire to bid for the property.

"We expect robust competition for a parcel of this magnitude," Tenorio said in his Nov. 2 letter to *Saipan Tribune*.

"It is my intention to proceed as previously disclosed, and issue an RFP in time to ensure a transaction is ready for completion upon the expiration of Kan Pacific's lease. If Kan Pacific makes the best proposal, we welcome them to continue to operate Mariana Resort. If not, we welcome the bidder who proposes the highest and best use for the entire premises that will generate the most income for the collective owners of public lands," Tenorio said.

Tenorio was responding to an OGA request for all correspondence "inclusive of but not limited to emails, letters, and their attached figures, charts, maps, and draft lease agreements" between DPL and Best Sunshine.

Tenorio, however, called the request "overbroad." He said

the request encompasses information that falls outside the legal definition of public record.

"The only records that the DPL is required by law to keep or which are necessary for the DPL to keep" are related to its discharge of its duties as imposed by law.

"Since DPL is not engaged in negotiations or discussions with either [Best Sunshine or Kan Pacific] to new leases in Marpi, there is no correspondence that DPL needs to keep to discharge its duties imposed by law that are relevant to your inquiry... It is our position that there are no responsive public records relative to the allegations that you seek to confirm or refute," Tenorio said.

Major issue

In an interview this week, House Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Rep. Tony Sablan said the Marianas Resort lease is a "major issue."

"Not only for Marianas Resort but you also have other major hotels whose leases are coming up. What this government does or how it handles

the Mariana Resort situation can greatly impact the other hotel leases as well," he said.

Sablan pointed out that Mariana Resort was one of the first major foreign investor to decide to do business here and has continued to do so for over 35 years.

"DPL's position is that we have to go through RFP but a couple of years ago they sent a letter to Mariana Resort, encouraging them to submit their plans for a new lease so that they can continue to do business. But then we get a complete change in policy."

He said it doesn't make sense for the government to seek to attract investors here "and then turn around and try to get rid of one that is already here," while in the process welcoming another investor.

"We can have both. We can keep the ones we've had here and welcome new investors. I think with proper assessment we can accommodate new investors without sacrificing those that have been long term and loyal business partners," Sablan said.

Major water leak found in Kobler

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Commonwealth Utilities Corp. crew unearthed a major water leak in Koblerville yesterday—an almost cave-like fissure beneath a section of Bibika Road between Hannam Market and Saipan Southern High School.

The leak was found by a team of CUC's Glenn Villagomez after the leak detection team of V.J. Concepcion and Chris Deleon Guerrero tracked the source of the leak.

CUC information officer Brad Ruszala said the leak was found after isolating the area where there was low water pressure and with the use of ground-miking equipment.

"When the crew came in and excavated, they eventually found where it was and the more they excavated, all of a sudden, the ground opened up and there was a huge cavity on the ground that was caused by the leak, probably for years," said acting CUC executive director John Riegel.

Based on the amount of water that was in the cavity and the water markings, it is possible that the leak has been going on for quite some time now.

Riegel said there is a 6-inch main pipe underneath the road but the leak is probably coming from the 2-inch pipe that is



This almost cave-like fissure beneath a section of a road in Koblerville has been identified as a major source of water leak. cuc

connected to the main. The leak could be caused by a crack, corrosion, or connecting issues.

According to Riegel, CUC first noticed the difference in water pressure in that area during the recovery stage after Typhoon Soudelor. They later received complaints of low water pressure in the area.

Ruszala said the water pressure in the affected area went as low as 19 pounds per square inch, from the more normal 40 psi.

"We try to provide our customers with the best water pressure possible and when it goes down, we try to find out why it went down," Ruszala said.

As of yesterday, finding the actual part of the pipe that was

damaged and its repair was still ongoing. Some parts of Koblerville were without water yesterday.

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Customs' Mafnas lets go of SHEFA board post

Outgoing SHEFA board member Joe Mafnas, who was nominated in 2010 to the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance Program board of directors, received a plaque of appreciation from Saipan Mayor David Apatang yesterday during a brief meeting at the mayor's conference room.

"It was a tough decision to leave the board of SHEFA because of [other work responsibilities] but I am confident that the board will continue to serve students," said Mafnas, who is the Division of Customs director.

SHEFA board chair Oscar M. Babauta said they will adopt Mafnas' recommendation from the last meetings to increase the scholarship awards but the agenda has been tabled for discussion on Monday.



Saipan Mayor David Apatang, left, presents former SHEFA board member Joe Mafnas with a plaque of appreciation during a brief meeting at the Saipan Mayor's Office yesterday. Mafnas recently stepped down from SHEFA to take care job related responsibilities. Others in photo are Labor Secretary Edith Deleon Guerrero, second from left, and SHEFA board chair Oscar Babauta, right.

Mafnas is also a former SHEFA chairman.

Presently, eligible applicants can receive a \$3,700 scholarship award made up of a \$1,000 bonus for a priority field of study and a \$1,200 grant-in-aid.

Off-island students who study off-island receive \$1,500.

Board members also said that transitioning scholarship recipients after college graduation into the CNMI workforce is among the issues they will tackle. (Daisy Demapan)

Port Heavy Weather Condition X-ray set for the Port of Guam

SANTA RITA, Guam—In preparation for the arrival of Tropical Storm In-Fa, the U. S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port Guam established Port Heavy Weather Condition X-RAY effective yesterday.

In accordance with federal regulations, the Captain of the Port directed all commercial vessels to prepare to complete cargo operations and depart the Ports of Guam and Rota when PHWC Yankee is established. "Dead" ships or vessels/barges/drydocks unable to put to sea must make a prompt written application to the Captain of the Port.

Upon the setting of PHWC Yankee all commercial vessels greater than or equal to 200 gross tons must depart and all

inbound vessels are prohibited from entering.

Upon the setting of PHWC Zulu the port and marinas will remain closed to incoming traffic and all cargo and bunker operations will be suspended.

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Judge will hear only \$7.4M Merrill Lynch settlement

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood will only hear today the CNMI Settlement Fund's trustee's request to approve the \$7.4-million settlement that the NMI Retirement Fund's former investment consultant, Merrill Lynch, has agreed to pay the Fund.

In an order on Wednesday, Tydingco-Gatewood said she needs more time to review Settlement Fund trustee Joyce C. H. Tang's most recent report and attachments pertaining to the status of the Settlement Fund.

Tydingco-Gatewood said

the presentation of Tang's report on the status of the Settlement Fund shall be held on Dec. 17, 2015, at 9am.

Today is the original schedule for the hearing on the Merrill Lynch settlement issue and Tang's report on the status of the Settlement Fund.

Tydingco-Gatewood said she will participate in today's hearing by video teleconference from Guam due to the anticipated inclement weather affecting the Mariana Islands.

The judge allowed Tang to appear at the courthouse in Guam for the video teleconference hearing. Counsel on Saipan shall participate from the courthouse at the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

The judge said all other off-

island counsel may participate by telephone.

Tang and NMI Settlement Fund counsel Dean A. Manglona asked the court to approve the \$7.4 million settlement and payment of attorney's fees and reimbursement of costs.

Tang said Manglona has reviewed the closing statement and detailed cost report, along with supporting invoices and/or receipts. She confirmed that the charges are supported by documentation, and are reasonable and necessary.

Manglona said the settlement was the product of difficult, complicated, and often contentious negotiations.

Attorney General Edward Manibusan, counsel for Gov.

Eloy S. Inos and the CNMI government, does not oppose approving the \$7.4-million settlement.

Out of the \$7.35-million settlement, \$1.84 million will go to attorney's fees and \$390,535.60 will go to law firms' expenses and costs. This leaves \$5.12 million in net proceeds for the Settlement Fund.

Merrill Lynch was the Re-

tirement Fund's consultant until 2010. During the time of the consultancy relationship, the value of the Fund's assets reportedly declined substantially.

Mariano Taitano, Roman Tudela, and Patricia Guerrero sued the Fund's board, Merrill Lynch, and others in Superior Court, alleging various causes of action for damage relating to the decline in the

Fund's assets.

The case was submitted to arbitration before the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. Taitano, Tudela, and Guerrero subsequently transferred their claims against Merrill Lynch to the Settlement Fund.

The parties in the claims against Merrill Lynch reached a settlement deal during a final attempt to mediate in Miami, Florida last July 31.

Public warned of hazardous surf until Monday

Fresh to occasionally strong trade winds and combined seas of 8 to 10 feet will produce hazardous conditions for operators of small craft, according to the CNMI Emergency Operations Center, citing information re-

ceived from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam.

A high surf advisory remains in effect for north and east facing reefs until Monday noon.

Hazardous surf of 7 to 9 feet along north facing reefs and 9 to 12 feet along east facing reefs could build to much higher levels this weekend. Surf will remain hazardous until Monday.

A small craft advisory remains in effect until 6pm Sunday. Winds of 20 knots and combined seas of 10 feet or higher will produce hazardous conditions for operators of

small craft. Seas exceeding 10 feet will mainly be east of the islands.

The public is being advised to avoid venturing into the water along exposed reefs and beaches, especially those facing north and east, as rip currents will be life threatening. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should also avoid boating in these conditions. If travel by boat is necessary, exercise caution especially near reef lines and when entering or leaving harbors and inlets. (EOC)

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Opinion

Hafa Adali

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXV, Issue No. 231Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
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EDITORIAL

Fear-mongering on refugees

It was inevitable that the terrorism attacks in Paris last week would echo quickly through the U.S. presidential campaign. Given the stream of nativist rhetoric already out there, it was also inevitable that some politicians' responses would be highly objectionable, beginning with Texas Sen. Ted Cruz's assertion that the United States should accept only Christian refugees from the Syrian conflict. Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush sounded a similar note, calling for special efforts to protect Christians in the region; never mind that Islamic State jihadists target fellow Muslims with just as much viciousness.

It's preposterous that a serious contender for the presidency of the U.S. would bar war refugee status based on someone's religion. And the suggestion by GOP candidate Ben Carson that the U.S. bar all Syrian refugees for fear that a "sleeper" terrorist might slip in is an emotional, and ill-conceived, overreaction, as are pledges by several Republican governors to resist efforts to resettle refugees in their states.

The United States doesn't have the same challenge as Europe, whose relative proximity to the Middle Eastern war zone has left it inundated with millions of refugees. And the source isn't just Syria and Iraq; refugees—both political and economic—from Africa have landed in Europe as well. There are few good options for stopping that tide without first stabilizing the regions from which it arises; a political solution to the Syrian civil war is a crucial first step to achieving that stability.

We haven't faced this exodus simply because it is so much harder for Syrian refugees to arrive at the border and seek asylum. President Barack Obama affirmed in Turkey on Tuesday that "America has to step up and do its part" in providing for war refugees, which presumably includes moving ahead with his plan to accept up to 10,000 Syrian refugees this fiscal year, up from fewer than 2,000. This page has argued that the U.S. should take significantly more because there are too many for Europe to absorb and because of our history as a safe haven. Nothing in the Paris attacks changes that.

That's not to suggest that the U.S. should accept any and all comers. What the Republican candidates ignore, though, is that there is already a system in place to vet the refugees. To gain entry to the U.S., a Syrian refugee first must pass rigorous screening by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which verifies personal backgrounds and details before recommending individuals for resettlement to the United States. Then the Department of Homeland Security does its own screening before a refugee is granted entry and protection.

It makes sense to be prudent and diligent when accepting refugees from a region of such threat and instability. But it defies what the nation stands for to deny a safe haven for the persecuted based on their faith, nation of origin, or our fear.

(c)2015 Los Angeles Times



j'aime la Paris

It was August in 1977 that I made my trip to the City of Lights. Learning of the war that defeated the wily Austrian corporal leading the awesome Wehrmacht that fed Aleman's illusions of superiority, and a chance to educate the status-conscious European into the proletarian ethos of American democracy, I knew more of Europe than my own location in Southeast Asia.

I was on an overnight direct flight from Chicago to Paris when I woke up at the Aéroport de Paris-Charles de Gaulle, aka Roissy Airport. With its futuristic design, the escalators at the center of the building with its transparent plastic tunnels made the place look like I just landed on a pad in outer space.

Mehran Karimi Nasser landed at the airport shortly thereafter as a stateless person after he protested against the Shah of Iran and stayed in the facility for 18 years, inspiring the Tom Hanks movie, *The Terminal*. Our Amboy the Shad did not think much of freedom of speech.

August in Paris is when shopkeepers drive to Cote d'Azur for three weeks of R&R. My host, who I planned to surprise, turned the table on me, as the household went to south Provence to imbibe the first juice of the orchard.

I arrived in the morning, moseyed over to the Champs Elysées and Arc de Triomphe where one can see the Tour Eiffel from a distance. I went to the Louvre but decided I did not have time to do justice to its art collection, so I walked to the Latin Quarter and watched an arty foreign film. A very tall Parisian lady beside me at the theatre joined me over coffee in one of the sidewalk cafes that sprouted after sundown. She was eager to practice her English, and we were both solo with time to spare.

We parted after 11pm, surprised when she found out I was "homeless" and could not invite her over to a five-star, nor me to an apartment full of girls; demurred when she discovered I was headed for Rome to join Oblate Fathers. She might have assumed I was celibate; I wasn't sure if she was glad or resentful.

She pointed me to a part of town where they had two-star accommodation for aliens and descended to a Metro for home. I headed to Montmartre (that sported Sacre Coeur on a hill) where the backpackers roamed the street at midnight, eating their crepes downed with red wine; the famous Moulin Rouge was walking distance. My Arabic hotelier was laidback, offered me what he said was the lowest price in town.

I mistakenly overpaid for dinner at the Latin Quarter (a Viet waiter must have thought I was a generous tipper), and the two-star hotel was still a dent on the pocketbook, so I counted my francs, smelled the roses, and headed back to the airport. The Oblate Religious House in Rome included meals, compliments of the host padre. Intentional poverty included compassion.

It was the satirical bent of Charlie Hebdo in Paris of 2014 that

By **JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



riled the nerves of Muslim warriors who thought the European sense of freedom of speech and press was grossly disrespectful. The newspaper went too far, satirizing the prophet Mohammed. In 2015, the guns went blazing as the paper received its perceived come-uppance and my city of lights became a city of fright and flight.

The media continues to portray all Muslims in the Middle East as a homogenous body, either through ISIS or ISIL, even when 20 responsible imams declared to tackle global climate change. Bombings we conduct inflict casualties on the innocent population, e.g., bombing of a Doctors Without Borders (Médecins Sans Frontières) hospital. Casualties from us are "collateral damage"; theirs are victims of terrorism.

Any death as a consequence of violence is deplorable. The carnage in Paris last week where suicide bombers led by a French-born national, reared in Belgium of Moroccan descent, inflicted disproportionate damage to further a cycle of retaliation moving ad infinitum, ad absurdum!

EU promised a human federation but German Chancellor Merkel bound to a stadium for a friendly soccer match between Germany and the Netherlands attracted a bomb scare; game cancelled.

Terrorism in France did not start yesterday. The rate US-EU consumes fossil fuel and our coercive ways of accessing the resource is not unrelated to the Arab Spring, the conflict in Syria, and the carnage in Paris. Kneejerk Muslims are not justified but it is well not to lose the historical perspective on the West's relationship with the region many decades before France this week.

"Trust but verify" was President Reagan's characterization of his relationship with the former USSR. I tend to go with him in the same spirit as the American legal sense of "innocent until proven guilty." Fear has now become the modus vivendi of everyone in the world, including the Muslims whose oil we exploited.

Like the U.S. whose fear saw the Chinese Exclusion Act passed by Congress in late 1800s, the Turks in Germany and those of former French colonies of Africa and SEA are making their presence known while Europe royals convulse in spasm. Fear reigns. Hope is a choice.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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A Marianas metonym

One of the most reckless things you can do is send me to the market with a shopping list. To me, shopping is just an excuse to be a delinquent. I'll buy a few random things that catch my eye and, well, that's pretty much all I'll do. This explains the box of cookies on the floor. It also explains how I've got a cool new word to play with: metonym. See? Shopping can lead to all sorts of adventures, at least if you know how to do it wrong.

First of all, let's take a look at these cookies. They came in a box, of course, but this isn't just any box. It is a metal "retro radio" box. It looks like an old-fashioned portable radio from back when a radio was the size of a lunch box. And, in fact, this thing opens like a lunch box. I thought it was cool. That's why I bought the cookies.

While the world's marketing pros rub their hands in glee that rubes like me still exist, I'm going to note a linguistic angle here: I had bought the things contained (the cookies) for the container (the metal box). Put in those terms, this quirky event gives me no end of amusement.

I'm not the only one, and, in fact, this is some old shtick. "A Thing Contained For the Container" as opposed to "a Container For The Thing Contained" was a riff from American author James Thurber. In his 1942 short story, *Here Lies Miss Groby*, Thurber gets obsessed with the notion.

Here's a famous example of the concept, not from Thurber, but from history: "Friends, Romans, Countrymen, lend me your ears." This phrase is not beseeching people to cut off their ears and pass them to the orator. The term "ears," of course, signifies the hearing that the ears contain. In other words, as they say in the military: "listen up."

So with this example we see a Container (ears) For The Things

Contained (hearing).

Would you believe there's a fancy word for this technique of language? There is. It's "metonym."

I don't know many "nym" words, so this one is a shiny new addition to my thin inventory.

Let's see, there's "synonym" for words that mean the same thing. There's "antonym" for words that mean opposite things. There's "homonym" for words that have the same spelling but different meanings.

And, there's "momnthym." This is the most important word on my list. It's a Southern contraction for "mom and them." If you ever go to the land of Dixie and someone asks, "How's your momnthym?" you can just say, "They are fine, suh, and they send their regards."

Anyway, back to this metonym thing. We use them all the time without even thinking about it. If I mention that a popular brew is the "island's favorite beer," I don't mean that the island likes to drink beer. Islands are hunks of rock. They don't imbibe. What I mean, of course, is that the inhabitants like to drink the beer. The container (the island) is used as a reference for the things contained (the people on the island). That's our Marianas metonym.

I'll just pull a couple of other examples out of thin air, not because you care, but because I have nothing else to think about. We can say, for example, "The entire bus was scared when the driver hit the brakes," or, "The classroom heaved a sigh of relief when the teacher canceled the test." If you took these sentences literally, they wouldn't make any sense. But, of course, they do make sense, thanks to the magical power of the metonym.

I'm sure that deep within the bowels of some giant think-tank, an Artificial Intelligence technician is listing as many metonyms as

expense of our people? You simply have answered your own sophomoric riddle in the process!

This as the 51 percent under poverty level income quiz what's next while literally struggling to make ends meet? The economy doesn't support high wages while cost of living skyrockets. No wonder it's a struggle for most folks!

Any realistic answers amidst 14 years of stagnant salaries—family income stayed the same—all these years? The pain in the villages isn't going away anytime soon. In fact, it'll get worse by the day. Root out the very foundation of poverty—corruption in government!

Culture: Our Ship of Hope

I've paced our 37-year journey, specifically why is this tiny paradise so tangled up in the steady sinking of its quality of life?

They say tourism is good but while visitor numbers increase, revenues have decreased by as much as \$40 million. It has gone the other way!

Then came casino. Even the APC itself is found to be the wrong prescription for a Stage 4 economic cancer that has spread all over.

Indeed, through the years we've also neglected the one foundation that has brought us this far—our cultural tradition—the foundation of any society. But it seems we've become so fashionably materialistic as to easily fall sway to wholesaling our integrity in the name of promoting social conscience and responsibility. Wow! Nice try!

It's the biblical equivalence of Abel and Cain. Peddlers don't have a conscience to see that this is exactly their single destructive mission. Obviously, they couldn't care less for as long as they receive hefty pay from the firm set to use a different approach to culture in our eventual destruction. Why would they barter our heritage?

It won't work and it would be very sad if one day the loss of tradition turns us into strangers right here at home. We're headed that way now. It's a dangerous journey!

Our cultural tradition is our only Ship of Hope dealing with the challenges of this century. It should take us into education where our children learn survival skills.

Said author Felix Montemayor about the importance of culture,

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
His column runs every Friday.



possible. That way, in the future, when you're eating dinner and you tell your Jeeves 2.0 Butler-bot to pass the salt, the robot will hand you the shaker instead of showering you with grains of salt.

Well, thus far, if you're keeping score, you may have noted that we're up against a stacked deck. The Container For The Thing Contained is represented with abundant examples. By contrast, it's a bit harder to come up with an example of a Thing Contained For The Container.

This was Thurber's problem, and the central issue in *Here Lies Miss Groby*. Thurber finally concocts a solution, so let's join the story at this point and lend him our ears:

"If a woman were to grab up a bottle of Grade A and say to her husband, 'Get away from me or I'll hit you with the milk,' that would be a Thing Contained for the Container."

Thus spoke Thurber. Problem solved.

But if you think getting hit with the milk hurts, let me tell you that getting beamed with the cookies is no picnic, either.

I really hope that your holiday preparations are going better than ours are. In the meantime, please tell your momnthym that I send my regards for Thanksgiving.

Return of the APC Era

It used to be that every illness here was treated with APC, a long time ago. Be it tuberculosis, cancer, heart attack and stroke, chronic diabetes or headaches—the APC is it!

I mention the APC Era in that it seems to be making a comeback in different form. For instance, the significant reduction in revenue generation gone Deep South has its own APC—casino! Though the big boys refuse admission of a huge budgetary shortfall of nearly \$150 million they have their own Holy Grail or APC too. It still is casino!

To ensure that locals keep silent on a brewing storm against the new gambling industry it was fed another APC—millions of dollars for utility vouchers from a casino firm. Unfortunately, it seems that the bottle of APC-casino is now more than half empty. Could we get a refill, please?

APC-casino isn't what IT was perceived to be. Of course, anything done in haste turns to waste! The NMI is broke or bankrupt. Has anyone seen our bottle of APC-casino lately? PSS, CHC, and CUC need some financial medication!

The fiscal crisis of the NMI is far more complicated than confused spouts from the "solutions driven" team. The lieutenant governor's sophomoric whistle about poverty while hinting to raiding MPLT funds is a direct and clear admission of the bankruptcy of the NMI government. The Constitution calls for investments! I'm not fixated on this issue for political purposes. Screw the political ramifications. But it's a serious one most have ignored. Imagine it hits villagers, if not, already!

Why did you allow a single casino license? Would not another license give an additional \$30 million for a total of \$60 million annually? It's oxymoronic that you contributed to poverty and even have the audacity to speak about it?

If you're concerned about opportunities for locals to eradicate poverty, didn't Best Sunshine just hire 40 foreigners as card dealers and placed front page in one of the local papers? What does this hiring translate into in your definition of opportunities? Doesn't it mean 40 less jobs for locals? So you subscribe to creating jobs for more foreigners over your very own? Why insulate your BSI at the

By JOHN DELROSARIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



"Both reason and experience tells, and history conclusively confirms and attests, that a nation built on a purely materialistic foundation cannot long endure and sooner or later collapses on its shaky, sandy, foundations." Montemayor was a famous philosopher in the Philippines who's written more than 12 books on various issues in philosophy. It's time to retreat and reassess our journey with a sure-footed navigator!

Dysfunctional government

You quiz why has the NMI government failed to improve the quality of life in the islands. Many folks feel the government is bloated, which takes away millions of dollars for salaries when they should be earmarked for meaningful programs.

A lot of political hires push the same set of papers daily looking busy. Their alleged services simply fail to improve life in the villages. Welcome to the "do-nothing" troops!

This is the cream of the crop in terms of wages and salaries. It's the most unproductive sector of the NMI collecting loots from taxes we pay. Did you get that, Ladronez?

Across the street are alleged policymakers who are basically clueless what their fiduciary duties entail. Ever heard any realistic idea how to improve the economy other than their Lazarus Package—casino? None!

Next, there's the panty law and a vicious intramural debate why the hotel district should have a single road. These as the quality of life or our standard of living deteriorates right smack in the deepening 14-year economic depression. How would these airheads spur opportunities when half the time they're clueless?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Stop using the word 'handicapped' for people

On Nov. 19, 2015, I read an article on the front page of the *Saipan Tribune* that was titled "Man stabs his handicapped mom."

As president of the Statewide Independent Living Council, I am disturbed that we still use this word to refer to people in the CNMI today.

The word "handicapped" has traditionally been used to refer to people with disabilities. Post-World War I and II, people who served during the war who lost limbs or were shell-shocked would sometimes be seen using their hat in their hand to ask for handouts. This

practice led to the use of this word in America to mean people with disabilities. It was actually used in federal laws until 1990.

It was deemed inappropriate in 1990 because it degrades the value of a person. People-first language movement began then and pushed for dignity and respect for all people with disabilities. According to the movement, we should place the value of a human being before any disability. For example, a man with a disability, and not a disabled or handicapped man.

I am requesting the newspapers to adhere to the People-First Language Movement and stop using "handicapped" to refer to our people with disabilities.

Thank you for your time and consideration with this important issue.

Emeterio Fitial
President, SILC

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the town criers

Thank you, Mr. Dela Cruz, for the very well written and lengthy article. Unfortunately, it is riddled with ignorance, speculation, and misinformation. It is also unfortunate that someone with your standing and track record would write something so in-depth without actually doing the research required to establish credibility in the subject matter. It seems to me that influential men such as yourself, men of high regard in the community, should be held to a greater responsibility to produce correct, trustworthy information. A responsibility to help bring solutions to light. Your eagerness to use the word “corruption” is a prime example of the hypocritical behavior displayed by many of the members posting to these threads. *Misinformation* is a form of corruption, whether it is intentional or not. By misstating the facts to the public in order to sway them to your point of view, you are corrupt. Ignorance is no excuse. Neither is the regurgitation of third party speculation.

Here’s what I *know* to be fact:

The Lottery Commission’s process—an in-depth background investigation, financial analysis, and leadership vetting—took a couple months. All, with exception of executive sessions, of the commission’s meetings were public. I was at almost all of them, though I do not recall seeing you at any of them. There were two, and only two, applicants (who applied) for the license. Imperial Pacific and Marianas Stars. Both were put under scrutiny, and Imperial Pacific came out on top. A wise choice, considering recent events.

It is not an excuse that the early opening of the *temporary training facility* is to begin training. This is a fact. The facility provides training for casino personnel, as well as the commissioners, regulators, and enforcement personnel from the Commonwealth Casino Commission. These are the people who have been assigned the task of regulating the casino that we are all so afraid is going to corrupt our island, so perhaps it is a good idea for them to know how the casino works, and how to spot those people who would steal from under our noses. To be fair, you should add the fact that this also allowed the community to begin reaping the financial benefits. That includes the Retirement Fund that I am sure you are or will be a beneficiary of. I guess I am failing to see the negative impact of this decision.

“The legislative minority (about five or six of them), not having the votes to make

any worthwhile opposition to the amendments requested by Best Sunshine, stood by the sidelines, helpless and unable to do anything.”

Maybe I don’t understand what you are trying to say here, but, isn’t this the way democratic government works?

I am also confused about the Kan Pacific and BSI statement. You are saying that Best Sunshine should *not* have the opportunity to bid? That Kan Pacific should not have any competitive bidding? Isn’t the fact that BSI can also bid... competitive bidding? Maybe we can reference IT&E’s land situation for further clarification on this subject.

Public Law 19-95, as passed, states: “The following information to be reported periodically to the Commission by a casino licensee *shall not* be considered confidential and shall be made available for public inspection:

■ A licensee’s gross revenue from all authorized casino gaming activities as defined in the chapter, and the licensee’s gross revenue from simulcast wagering;

■ The dollar amount of patron checks initially accepted by a licensee. The dollar amount of checks deposited to the licensee’s bank account...” (italics mine)

Also included on this list is the amount of gross revenue tax, or alternative tax paid, the list of premises and nature of improvement costs and payees, quarterly and annual financial statements, and the identity and nature of services provided by any person or firm receiving payment in any form whatsoever for professional services in connection with authorization or conduct of games conducted at a casino.

Reading further into the law, you will find that the only other information kept from the public is the background information found when the Casino Commission performs its vetting of individual casino employees. Should this be public? Should we publicly show past financial information, criminal records, job, education, and credit history for our leadership? How about DPS, CUC, CHCC, IT&E, etc.? I bet that would be an interesting read.

By the way, our current tax laws (correct me if I am wrong) state that BGRT’s are in fact considered confidential information, and the laws that we have in place mirror those of the federal government. Maybe, being people of such high moral standing, and being prepared to stand tall for the public eye, you should post a couple years of your tax information in your next article.

I will spare you, myself,

and the readers of conveying the law in its entirety. I am sure the majority of the public does not need to be spoonfed the correct information. It is a public law. P.L. 19-95 is there for anyone who wants to look into it. Then, and only then, should we make knowledge-backed comments, remarks and/or complaints. In a perfect world, we would all seek out reliable sources to inform ourselves before passing judgment, or trying to spread that knowledge to others. Non-biased information is truth. Anything else is propaganda, as I am sure you are aware. Experience and wisdom is great, but making assumptions in a public forum merely adds fuel to the fire that is building mistrust of an industry that has great potential to help us in our current plight.

Our community has received countless donations, both physical and monetary, from Best Sunshine. They helped with Typhoon Soudelor relief, despite the fact that the company lost tons on revenue, and supported cleanup efforts across the island. Of the 590 BSI employees, 43 percent are local hires and 14 percent are non-local citizens. That is a total of 252 new jobs that BSI has created for our community, and this is just the beginning. Another 35 new jobs were created when the Commission was established. As the casino grows, so will the Commission, again creating new private sector and government jobs. I find it interesting that included in that 43 percent are individuals who have spoken out in protest of the casino. I have personally sat next to those who protested, while they were at the casino, drinking \$1 beers.

The 300 remains (300 bones, *not* 300 individuals) that have been unearthed from the Garapan site are kept in a climate-controlled warehouse, awaiting the carbon dating and DNA testing that Best Sunshine is paying for. Personally, I am excited to learn more about them, and I see this as a great opportunity to potentially learn more about how the ancestors lived and where they came from. Also unearthed from the site were large amounts of unexploded ordnance. There was a sea mine, the size of a full grown man, countless mortar rounds, grenades and ammunition. An extreme danger to any non-suspecting patron, man, woman and child, who happened to be in the vicinity.

The casino industry on Saipan is new. I agree that how it came about may not have been ideal. I agree that the casino has potential for negative as well as positive impact.

I also agree that the casino and its investors need to be watched under a microscope. That is the sole purpose of the Casino Commission. It seems common sense that the public needs to support the Commission instead of spreading speculation, rumors, and unfounded accusations of corruption. Even more so to those who do not trust the industry, and those who were against it to begin with. We cannot allow the casino industry to operate unchecked.

The Casino Commission regularly holds monthly *public* meetings with Best Sunshine leadership and the interested public to address issues in regards to enforcement of MICS (Minimum Internal Control Standards) and CCC implemented rules and regulations and public concerns.

In regards to P.L. 16-46: “Section 3177. Where smoking not regulated. Notwithstanding any provision of this article to the contrary, the following areas shall be exempt from the provisions of Sections 3173 and 3174:

(a) Bars, including open air bars, but not attached bars, at the earlier of (1) an established time when the kitchen ceases servicing dinner meals or (2) 10pm; Page 10 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 PUBLIC LAW NO. 16-46 HOUSE BILL No. 16-47, HD2, SD1, CCSI provided that smoke from these places does not infiltrate into areas where smoking is prohibited under the provisions of this article.

(b) Private residences, except when used as a licensed child care, adult day care, or health care facility.

(c) Hotel and motel rooms that are rented to guests and are designated as smoking rooms; provided, however, that not more than 20 percent of rooms rented to guests in a hotel or motel may be so designated. The status of rooms as smoking or nonsmoking may not be changed, except to add additional nonsmoking rooms.

(d) Private and semiprivate rooms in nursing homes and long-term care facilities that are occupied by one or more persons, all of whom are smokers and have requested in writing to be placed in a room where smoking is permitted; provided that smoke from these places does not infiltrate into areas where smoking is prohibited under the provisions of this article.

(e) Outdoor areas of places of employment except those covered by the provisions of Section 3174 and Section 3176.

(f) Enclosed gaming areas of a casino establishment.

(g) Fully enclosed and well-ventilated smoking areas at the departure terminal of Commonwealth airports.

Section 3181. Enforcement.

(a) This article shall be enforced by the Department of Public Health or an authorized designee.

(b) Notice of the provisions of this article shall be given to all applicants for a business license in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(c) Any citizen who desires to register a complaint under this article may initiate enforcement with the Secretary of the Department of Public Health or his designee.

(d) The Department of Public Health, the Fire Division of the Department of Public Safety, or their designees shall, while an establishment is undergoing otherwise mandated inspections, inspect for compliance with this article.

Where is the outcry for the health and safety of those working at our hotels and bars? More hypocritical nonsense.

As Mr. Propst has so eloquently stated on his Facebook page, the CCC has indeed brought this up with Best Sunshine, and BSI *is* working to remedy the situation. The Department of Public Health also has a responsibility to uphold its laws (Section 3181. Enforcement. (a) This article shall be enforced by the Department of Public Health or an authorized designee.) Let us hold *all* parties responsible, rather than singling out the Casino Commission because it is the popular thing to do. I understand that addressing this issue will help with your political agenda, and it’s an incredibly easy way to advance your popularity, but if you are as concerned as you profess on your Facebook page, refer to section (c) above. Once again, as a member of Legislature, as influential as you are, accept the increased responsibility bestowed upon you by the people that voted you in. Why don’t you start by getting out from behind your social networking page, stand up from your bar stool, and do something about it?

The controversial bill that was “rushed” through sat on the table for four months before it was even addressed. Many members of the Legislature didn’t even pick it up to read it during this period. Even the speaker commented on how long the bill was in the hands of the Legislature without action. Then, when it was finally addressed, there was another month of amendments before it was acceptable for the majority vote. By the

way, that’s how it works in our government system, correct? The majority rules. I give you my admiration and respect for standing up for what you believed to be the right thing. But you lost. It wasn’t a breakdown of the system. The system worked *as intended*.

On a side note, for the sake of the public, and so that we all have a better understanding of the subject material addressed in this article, the Casino Commission and the Lottery Commission are two different entities. The Lottery Commission was developed to investigate, interview, and award the licensee. The Casino Commission was established to regulate and enforce the imposed laws as well as the established MICS and Rules and Regulations.

This is a team effort. We, as concerned public, have to be part of it. The *entire* government has to be part of it. Many of us sit in front of our computers, reading the articles in the newspaper, the rumors, and blames in commentary and letters to the editor, and diversion of responsibilities through social networking, yet we do nothing. It’s always the same group of people rallying to spread the negativity. We cannot take what is said at face value. Seeking out the truth is a good way to start the process.

As I said before, the casino is here, and like it or not, we have to deal with it. The best interest of the public now is to support the Casino Commission and our government as regulatory entities. The laws, rules, and regulations were formed for the sole purpose of looking out for our community. Attend these public meetings and state your concerns, your misgivings, and your questions. The smoking issue is a perfect example. I am a non-smoker. I have been in the casino, and I hate the smell. I agree that it should be a non-smoking area and I challenge our leadership to act. Not talk.

For the sake of everyone involved, instead of standing on your soapboxes, instead of spreading negativity and rumor, speculation and blame, be part of the solution. You know who you are. Have some respect, and truly stand up for your brothers and sisters. At the end of the day, it’s your actions that define you.

Food for thought: If you had an embarrassing situation in a public forum, would you rather someone point a finger at you and yell out “Hey! Look at that guy!” or would you want someone to approach you and discreetly let you know?

Patty A. Cabrera
San Antonio, Saipan

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We, the people of Micronesia, have a long legacy of strong men who charm, memorialize, and lead the rest of us to better things. One such individual was the late David Kapileo Peter a.k.a. "Taulamwaar."

I call him uncle, and will always remember how he talked about making the CNMI a hub for travel in the Pacific. He had great ideas that were sound and simple to a degree. He was ambitious about promoting Saipan and the CNMI into a stronger economic state than what it was or is now. He spoke about how we, people of minority, do not have to sit quietly while others run the show. These are our islands and its future should be in our hands.

Being from Ulithi in the Federated States of Micronesia's state of Yap, and of a Carolinian culture, I relate completely with Uncle Dave in most of the ideas he shared. My time with him, though short, made me feel like I was back on Falalop under the tutelage of the elders in the canoe house. We come from an "oral" culture because we speak our history to our younger generations. Nothing was written down; instead, stories or "fe-ong" was used to pass down important cultural education from one generation to the next ones.

Uncle David was not only a Carolinian cultural icon but also a wonderful musician, and he wooed people with his singing, and how he was smooth as silk on his ukulele.

Center shall be open for you soon. We are going to enjoy each other's company again. The *Man'amko* Center's friendly staff will be helping us to have days and days of happiness together. Call each other, let everybody know and get ready. Call the Office on Aging for further details.

As your *Man'amko* King, I am delighted to see you back again. We will be happy to represent your interests at all the levels of leadership. See you soon!

Diego Pua
Tanapag, Saipan

David Kapileo Peter 'Taulamwaar'

He was a leader who could talk the talk and walk the walk. He was kind in the gentlest of ways. He always smiled and told jokes like everything was okay. Even when he was in pain and waning, he still smiled.

At his farewell gathering by the Carolinian Utt, my wife and I sat and watched a colorful

sunset as the family was out on a boat in the water scattering his ashes, as he had wished.

Though he endured a lot in the latter part of his life and became a person with a disability, he remained strong in his ways. We at NMPASI have worked with people who have disabilities to protect their legal rights in the

CNMI since 1993, but once in a while, we take pause, and admire people who do not let their conditions get in their way.

Uncle David Peter is one such individual. He lived every moment of his life well from what I saw. He was a Vietnam veteran, an entertainer, and one of the authors of *Satit Matawal Pa-*

sifiko (the Carolinian part of the CNMI National Anthem).

I hope we can take a page from Taulamwaar's book of life, and learn to love gently, speak softly, and stand up for what we believe in. Farewell, Uncle Dave, thank you for your wisdom and guidance, and now rest in peace.

Thomas M. Thornburgh
Program Manager, NMPASI

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Casino regulators lean on DPS for casino ID system

The fiscal year 2016 budget earmarks just \$1,000 for the Commonwealth Casino Commission, but regulatory fees—established by an amendment to the casino law, which is now under administration of Gov. Eloy

S. Inos for review—will grant regulators the statutory authority to use license fees to fund ID cards for casino employees.

“We cannot live with \$1,000,” said Edward C. Deleon Guerrero, executive director of the

casino commission. “If this law is passed, we will be able to use our casino regulatory fee for the operation of the casino.”

Saipan Tribune asked Deleon Guerrero if the lack of funding has affected any ser-

vices for identification cards, for example.

As part of their regulatory function, the commission is responsible for badging and fingerprinting systems.

But Deleon Guerrero said that

in the absence of any money to purchase the fingerprinting machines, they aren’t able proceed.

“We are relying on [the Department of Public Safety] to help us out in the fingerprinting and the badging. Once we get

the budget then we can do that internally,” he said.

Deleon Guerrero assured that casino employees have never been allowed to work without the proper license since Day 1 of operations on July 26—when the Saipan live gaming facility of Best Sunshine International, Ltd. opened. **(Dennis B. Chan)**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Caregivers workshop today

The Commonwealth Respite Service Program, under the Ayuda Network, Inc. in collaboration with the Council on Developmental Disabilities, is inviting family caregivers for a one-day workshop today, Nov. 20, 2015, at Pacific Islands Club, Napu Room from 8am to 2:30pm. Seating is limited on a first-come, first-serve basis. To register for the workshop, call Ayuda Network at 322-7469

from 7:30am to 4pm. Registration deadline for this workshop is Nov. 18 at 3:30pm. For special accommodations, call 322-7469 by Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2015. **(PR)**

Grotto gets red flag

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged the Grotto Cave and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of this location for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from the Grotto contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan’s recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. **(DEQ)**

Kristo Rai Parish Fiesta on Nov. 22

The public is invited to attend the fiesta for Kristo Rai parish this Sunday at 9:30am. Fr. Tom Benz of the Society of Jesus will be the guest homilist. Novena and Mass will be followed by a short procession followed by food, entertainment, and a mini sports festival. **(PR)**

Military training at FDM, Warning Area 517 ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air

Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Nov. 23, from 1pm to 5pm
- Nov. 24-25, from 11am to 3pm

The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Nov. 24, from 2:30pm to 5:30pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of

the areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. W-517 is an irregular polygon comprising 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. **(PR)**



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Sex offender arrested for failure to update info

CNMI Probation Officers arrested in Dandan on Wednesday afternoon a sex offender who allegedly failed to update the Department of Public Safety Sex Offender Registry Section about his verification information.

Saipan Tribune learned that two probation officers found the 38-year-old Ivan Jones Castro in a jungle area and served him with an arrest warrant.

The \$10,000 cash bail the court earlier imposed on Castro was retained during a bail hearing yesterday. Preliminary hearing will be on Nov. 25 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Castro. Assistant attorney general Shannon Folley appeared for the government.

According to police, officer Rhonda C. John and another detective did a follow-up investigation on Castro last Aug. 25 related to a theft incident in As Teo.

John said they checked Auto Marine and were told that Castro was no longer employed there. The two officers proceeded to the apartment of Castro's niece on Capital Hill.

The niece disclosed that Castro slept at her apartment for three days and then left. The niece also stated that she lives with her two children.

Last Oct. 13, a police detective found Castro behind Eucon International School in Gualo Rai. Castro was then taken to the Commonwealth Bureau of Investigation.

That same day, John said that Castro admitted to forgetting to

check in with DPS Sex Offender Registry Section to update his verification information.

Castro also stated that after he quit his job at Auto Marine, he stayed for one night with his

niece, who has two children.

In May 2003, Castro pleaded guilty to sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree. He was sentenced to four years in prison.

In November 2005, the Board

of Parole granted him parole and he was released from prison on Dec. 2, 2005. He registered as a sex offender in November 2006.

In March 2010, an arrest warrant was issued for Castro for

not complying with the Sex Offender Registry requirements. He was arrested on April 3, 2015. After his release on July 2, 2015, he updated his verification form and listed Auto Marine as his employer.

Castro was one of four men who allegedly abducted a stu-

dent in Kagman in June 2010 and then raped her at Tank Beach. One defendant pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 15 years in prison. The charges against Castro and two others were dropped after DNA test results were inconclusive. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM

Babies learn from the time they are born. One of the ways they learn is through hearing. When a baby is born with hearing loss, many sounds and voices are not heard, and the child's speech and language development can be delayed. CHCC implemented newborn hearing as a standard of care and all babies get their hearing screened shortly after birth.



Ask if your baby passed the test. If you have concerns or your baby needs follow up call 236-8709.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Printing funded by the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Grant under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration.



China expert city planners meet with Saipan mayor


Four of China’s expert city planners and architects—Kevin Lee, Crystal Wang, Qingyu Liu, and Jia Yu—along with Skywalker Communications Group managing director, Dr. Hu Bo, recently paid a courtesy visit to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang.

Lee is currently the acting director of the Shanghai Jiaotong University’s Advanced Institute of Finance. He was the developer and development consultant for the Guoao Group’s

See CHINA on Next Page



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, Crystal Wang, Rose Ada, Kevin Lee, Qingyu Liu, Saipan Mayor David Apatang, Dr. Hu Bo, Jia Yu, Henry Hofschneider, and Kiki Chen.



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS (DPL)

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP15 – RED006

“LEASE AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC PROPERTIES IN MARPI, SAIPAN”

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: May 27, 2016

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, through the Department of Public Lands (DPL), are soliciting sealed proposals from interested and qualified companies or individuals for the purpose of leasing and further commercial development of the following public lands (Marianas Resort and Spa and Golf Course area):

Lot Number	Current Use	Lot Size, M2
<i>(West of Main Road - Oceanside)</i>		
003 A 05	Race Cart Track	115,500
003 A 06	Mini Golf Course / Hotel	49,500
003 A 07	Main Lobby / Hotel / Cottages	69,300
003 A 08	Villas / Maintenance Facility	30,738
003 A 24	Vacant Land	109,003
Group of Properties West of Main Road:		374,041
<i>(East of Main Road - Inland)</i>		
003 A 15	Pool / Baseball / Open Field	43,637
003 A 18 &	18 Hole Golf Course / Club House	905,784
008 A 01	House	30,000
064 A 02	Vacant Land	10,000
064 A 03	Vacant Land	39,000
086 A 01	Vacant Land	153,443
Part of TR 7-1 & 8	Vacant Land	56,759
Group of Properties East of Main Road:		1,238,623
Aggregate Area in Square Meters:		1,612,664

The RFP instruction and information package (RFP Packet) is available at the Department of Public Lands office, located on the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, during the hours of 7:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Interested proposers from overseas may request an RFP Packet by mail, or email. The request must be received by DPL no later than **February 26, 2016, 4:30pm ChST, reference “RFP15-RED006 LEASE & DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN MARPI, SAIPAN**

Questions from proposing firms regarding the contents of the RFP packet must be received, **no later than 4:30 pm on February 26, 2016 ChST** and must be submitted in writing via mail, email or facsimile to Mr. Pedro A. Tenorio, Secretary, Department of Public Lands at the following address:

Department of Public Lands
P.O. Box 500380
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone number(s): (670) 234-3751/52/53
Facsimile number: (670) 234-3755
Email: pete.tenorio@dpl.gov.mp

Response to questions will be summarized and shared with all proposers in a “Question and Answer” format.

The DPL reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal, if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of public land beneficiaries. All proposals shall become the sole property of the DPL.

PATRICIA S. RASA, Acting Secretary
Department of Public Lands



COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1856/57
Email: commonwealthcasinocommission@gmail.com



PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission (“Commission”), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled a meeting on Wednesday, November 25, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission’s Office (Conference Room) at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

- I. PRELIMINARIES:**
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Adoption of Agenda
 - D. Adoption of Minutes: October 29, 2015
- II. REPORTS:**
 - A. Report by the Chairman
 - B. Report by the Executive Director
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- IV. OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. House Bill #19-95
 - B. UNLV International Gaming Institute Training Seminar
- V. NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. Adoption of Casino Junket Operator License Application Form
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- VII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day if necessary.

Juan M. Sablan
Chairman



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR REPAIRS TO DELTA DOCK AT THE SAIPAN HARBOR

Project No. CPA-SS-001-16

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for the repairs to Delta Dock at the Saipan Harbor, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Project Number CPA-SS-001-16.

The project is being funded by CPA. This project is in accordance with CPA’s Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA’s Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant, at (670) 237-6500, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, November 13, 2015, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Similar work experience in harbor A/E design, including, but not limited to needs analysis, design, cost estimating, and environmental review and permitting (25 points).
- Capability to perform all aspects of the project, such as analysis, planning, environmental evaluations, financial analysis and architectural and engineering design (25 points).
- Level of proficiency in performing services promptly; and level of experience with the CPA projects (15 points).
- The general reputation of the consultant in terms of quality of work experience and services performed for projects, and the consultant’s professional integrity and competence (15 points).
- Capacity to accomplish the work within the contract time (10 points).
- Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal (10 points).

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., DECEMBER 4, 2015**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all travel costs and taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:

Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: November 2, 2015

Disability Network Partners collaborate on upcoming projects

During a Disability Network Partners meeting at the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc., stakeholders from various agencies convened to discuss much needed staff training for implementation and practice. Among the topics discussed were equal employment opportunity and sexual harassment as

well as ethics training from the Office of the Public Auditor. Pamela Sablan of the Developmental Disabilities Council spoke of a Social Security webinar training on Ticket to Work slated sometime in December and asked for training to include the PASS Plan or Plan to Achieve Self-Support program

under SSA in order to provide individuals with disabilities the opportunity to work and achieve a goal. According to Sablan, PASS lets a disabled individual set aside money and things he or she owns to pay for items or services needed to achieve a specific goal such as purchasing a

car. The objective of the PASS is to help disabled individuals find jobs that reduces or eliminates SSI or SSDI benefits. Ticket to Work offers beneficiaries with disabilities more choices when seeking service and supports to enter, re-enter, and/or maintain employment or to increase the financial independence and self-

sufficiency. Sablan adds that DNP self-advocacy and employment will continue in the new DDC five-year plan, of which a survey will continue being administered throughout the fiscal year to include employment statistics of individuals with disabilities. (Daisy Demapan)

CHINA

From Page 16

Raycom Real Estate Development Corp. and the Star River Hotel & Apartment Project and an associate professor in Architectural Design at the Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture's Art Research Center. He has worked on several reputable projects, one of which is the Beijing Olympic Village.

Wang has 15 years of experience in the field of real estate, marketing, and urban/rural development. Wang is currently the deputy general manager and land operational consultant for the Guoao New Energy Group, where she oversees research strategies for urban development, development planning for government and property developers, and implementation of urban construction schemes, designs, marketing and investment attraction policy.

Liu is an architect who is currently the co-partner and Architectural Design director for YanHuang International Architecture & Engineering Co. Ltd., one the biggest architectural design firms in Beijing, China, that oversees architectural planning for the city, landscaping, and interior design, to name a few. Liu is also an associate professor for

the Tsinghua University and the Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture's Art Research Center. Since Typhoon Soudelor hit Saipan in August, causing huge damage to the island, the Saipan Mayor's Office and Skywalker have worked hard to find the best solution to the housing problem.

efforts Skywalker did for our community and now they are planning to bring a new technology housing program named 'GreenStay' to provide a solution for the housing problem caused by Typhoon Shoulder," said Apatang. The GreenStay project is a program was born from the desire of Skywalker to assist those whose homes were dam-

aged by Typhoon Soudelor. The idea for an environmentally friendly and typhoon-proof home was introduced to Apatang in September. This new housing technology has a lot of advantages, including modularity, efficiency, style, environmentally friendly, cost saving, and durability. "We were devastated when we saw the news about the ty-

phoon on TV and the damage it left behind—homes destroyed and families displaced," said Liu. "When Dr. Bo of Skywalker approached us with the GreenStay idea and the reason for his desire to take on such a project, I was more than willing to do my part to assist with this mission. Everyone, all families, deserve to have a safe place to live," said Liu. (Skywalker)

To our valuable customers,

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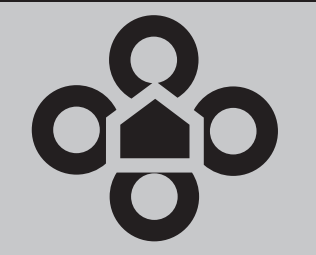
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PRO SE



IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of The Petition To Appoint General Guardianship For:] FCD GU] CIVIL] ACTION NO.] 15-0484(R)]
AEYANI PAIGE CABRERA PINAULA Minor Child,] NOTICE OF HEARING]
By:]]
GINA ASHLEY CABRERA PINAULA Petitioner.]]

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on December 04, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. in Rota Courtroom, before Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2015.

Patrick C. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court



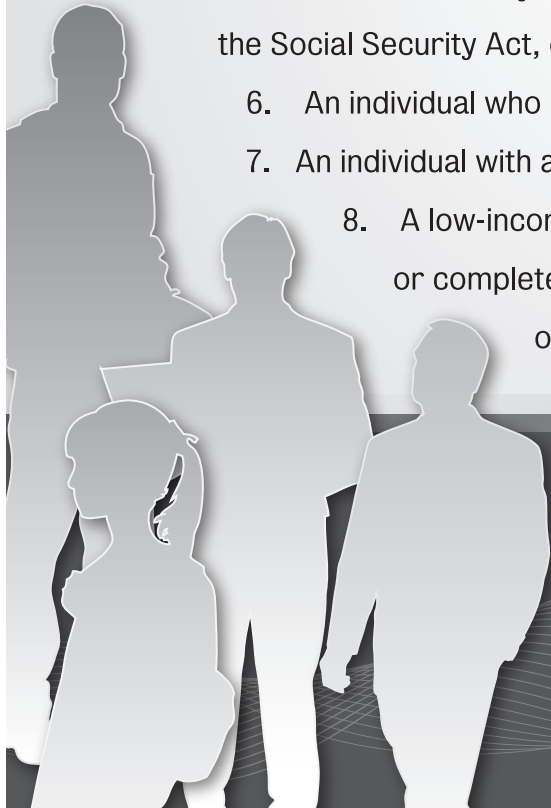
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2. A youth who is within the age of compulsory school attendance, but has not attended school for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter.
3. A recipient of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent who is a low-income individual and is either basic skills deficient or an English language learner
4. An individual who is subject to the juvenile or adult justice system
5. A homeless individual, a runaway, an individual who is in foster care or has aged out of the foster care system, a child eligible for assistance under Section 477 of the Social Security Act, or an individual who is an out-of-home placement
6. An individual who is pregnant or parenting
7. An individual with a disability
8. A low-income individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment



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Veterans say thanks to Best Sunshine for picnic

The first-ever picnic hosted by Best Sunshine International, Ltd. for veterans at the Minachom Atdao pavilion brought generations together through fun, food, and fellowship.

There have been picnics in the past but the Nov. 11 BSI-led event was the largest—if it may also possibly be the first time in about five years—that the veteran community was celebrated with the overflowing support of families, who spent Veterans Day honoring more than 500 past and present veterans.

This was a gathering that allowed families to express appreciation to those who saw action and “gave up their freedom so we could have ours.”

According to Rita Chong, BSI's corporate social responsibility director, “it was an opportunity for our community to meet and talk to our veterans and to let them know we are always there standing next to them, and for the younger generation to truly understand what these veterans went through and experienced while serving to protect the freedoms we enjoy today.”

The Veterans Day picnic was a plan that BSI's CSR team put together to continually show support and express appreciation.

For the veterans themselves, it was a way to reconnect and reminisce about experiences that only they could under-



Past and present veterans are joined by families and members of the community.



Best Sunshine International's CSR director Geri Dela Cruz and some of the CSR team members smile with active and former service members.

stand. And the Veterans Day picnic hosted by Best Sunshine renewed that bond and camaraderie and promoted awareness among the younger generation of the important roles these men

and women have played.

“I truly loved the picnic. You just don't understand how much we appreciate it all, not just the food and entertainment but spending time with everyone,”



Celebrating the veterans.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

due to health conditions, the Nov. 11 picnic has revived the dwindling tradition.

“This is just a different day for us. Thank you, Best Sunshine, for [reviving] this tradition. It is always enjoyable to get together with folks who have some common bond,” added a veteran.

The over 500 veterans and families were also met by lawyer Viola Alepuyo, who was formally introduced to the community as the new Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army.

Alepuyo is the first woman to serve the high-profile position with a rank that is equivalent to a three-star general. (*Best Sunshine*)

said one Saipan-based veteran.

Another veteran added, “I really look forward to these functions. You don't get to see everyone too often.”

Chong agrees. “It was an oppor-

tunity for our families to meet and talk with veterans face to face.”

Although the number of attendees changes from year to year as some veterans are no longer with us or can't attend

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT:

Run dates: 11/13, 11/16 and 11/20

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Salary:	\$10.00 per hour or higher based on experience and qualifications
Qualification	Post Secondary Certificate/High School Diploma, (3) yrs. experience
Link	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/47-2111-00
Position:	(2) Plumber
Salary:	\$10.00 per hour or higher based on experience and qualifications
Qualification	Post Secondary Certificate/High School Diploma, (3) yrs. experience
Link	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/47-2152-02
Position:	(4) Carpenter
Salary:	\$10.00 per hour or higher based on experience and qualifications
Qualification	High School Diploma or Equivalent, (3) yrs. experience
Link	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/47-2031-00
Position:	(8) Brickmason
Salary:	\$10.00 per hour or higher based on experience and qualifications
Qualification	High School Diploma or Equivalent, (3) yrs. experience
Link	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/47-2021-00
Position:	(2) Welder
Salary:	\$10.00 per hour or higher based on experience and qualifications
Qualification	Post Secondary Certificate/High School Diploma, (3) yrs. experience
Link	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/51-4121-00
Position:	(1) Translator
Salary:	\$2,000 to \$2,350 monthly
Qualification	AA Degree/College Graduate, English language certification, 3 years experience
Link	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/27-3091-00
Position:	(1) Project Manager
Salary:	\$2,500 to \$3,000 monthly
Qualification	College graduate with experiences
Link	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/13-1051-00
Position:	(1) Concrete Foreman
Salary:	\$14.00 to \$15.00 per hour
Qualification	Bachelor's Degree, (3) yrs. experience
Link	http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/11-9021-00

As a USCIS EB5 approved project, these positions are available first to U.S. Citizens. If interested and think you meet the qualification, please fax resume to (670) 433-4329 or email to BIGConstructionJobs@gmail.com or simply stop by our office located above Bank of Guam, Tinian.



We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude. Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

CLUBMATES

Applicants must have previous related work experience and must pass all American Red Cross Lifeguard requirements (including a 300 yard continuous swim test); Sports-minded individuals are encouraged to apply; Must possess good verbal and written communication skills; Korean, Japanese and/or Russian language skill is a plus; Paid training and free two year lifeguard certification course for eligible candidates; Must be able to work on evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) CHINESE COOK

Minimum of two (2) years work experience in preparing Chinese cuisine. Must be able to coordinate and support team members within the kitchen department. Must be able to communicate clearly in English. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ELECTRICIAN

Minimum of five (5) years related work experience. Must be able to work shifts, weekends and holidays.

(1) HVAC TECHNICIAN

Minimum of four (4) years related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) POWERHOUSE OPERATOR

Minimum of three (3) years related work experience. Certified Water Treatment & Distribution operator preferred. Must be a certified Class A/B UST operator. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) THAI COOK

Minimum of two (2) years work experience in preparing Thai and Asian cuisine. Must be able to coordinate and support team members within the kitchen department. Must be able to communicate clearly in English. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Tuesday, November 24th, 2015. PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered. PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Dynamic suspends HK-Saipan flights

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Dynamic Airlines went on a “break” and may not be coming back to operate chartered flights from Hong Kong to Saipan anytime soon.

The airline’s local representative, Dennis Tse, told *Saipan Tribune* that they are currently not operating since Tuesday.

Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Maryann Lizama confirmed the airline’s move to temporarily stop operation and said that Dynamic Airlines gave “proper notification.”

“We have been informed of the suspension of their charter flights between Saipan and Hong Kong until further notice,” Lizama said.

Lizama said the airline notified them on Nov. 5.

Tse did not disclose specific reasons but said that the move was planned months ago.

“This is a company decision,” he said.

Dynamic Airways also left Saipan for about 11 months before coming back last July for the HK-Saipan route.

Tse said the airline will be scheduling flights again in January next year, but they will be

from different destinations.

“This time we may not be bringing in any passengers from Hong Kong. When we come back, we will be bringing passengers from China,” Tse said, adding that they will be flying in from several cities.

Prior to the break, the airline operated two aircrafts servicing a weekly flight from Hong Kong and once every two weeks from China. They bring in about 200 passengers every flight.

Tse said there will still be two aircraft dedicated to Saipan when they start operating again.

Ex-lawmaker amends suit anew, names another CHCC staff as a co-defendant

Former representative Ana S. Teregeyo has amended her lawsuit again by including another staff of the Commonwealth Health Center as a co-defendant for alleged negligence that caused her left knee and leg to become infected, necessitating five more surgeries and an artificial knee replacement.

Teregeyo’s original lawsuit named the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., CEO Esther L. Muna, and some medical staff officers as defendants. She later added Dr. Greg Kotheimer and Dr. Sherleen Osman to the suit.

Kotheimer is the acting chief of staff for CHCC, while Osman is the acting director of Medical Affairs.

In her amended complaint Wednesday, Teregeyo added

Benjamin J. Hochhalter as co-defendant. She said Hochhalter, acting as a physician assistant employee of CHCC, failed to diagnose and properly and timely intervene in the management of her surgical incision.

She said CHCC, by way of Kotheimer, Osman, and other officers, “failed to act in a manner set forth in the CHCC hospital bylaws, thus denying her orthopedic surgeon doctor the ability to care for her left knee and leg during her post-operative care recovery.”

Teregeyo is demanding an unspecified amount of damages for pain and suffering, mental anguish, and expenses.

Teregeyo was admitted to the Commonwealth Health Center on Nov. 2, 2013, because of a

shattered tibia bone. She was treated by orthopedic surgeon Dr. Grant Walker.

Teregeyo was released on Nov. 27, 2013. She saw Hochhalter during follow up visits to the orthopedic clinic of the hospital.

Teregeyo said Hochhalter took out the post-operative sutures too early, resulting the gap in the incision to go untreated. She said an infection continued eating away at the bone below and including her left knee. She said the infection necessitated six surgeries, including a full artificial replacement of her knee.

Teregeyo said she had to be treated for 10 months on the U.S. mainland, where she received five additional surgeries. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) RUNWAY VACUUM SWEEPER** to the FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SAIPAN, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0002-80, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Procurement and Delivery of One (1) Runway Vacuum Sweeper to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0002-80”,* and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new manually operated runway vacuum sweeper for the Saipan International Airport designed especially for use in cleaning pavements to remove debris, dirt and dust from routed cracks of the pavement, all in accordance with the specifications.

A CD-Rom containing the contract documents including specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier’s check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The procurement is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the awarded bidder for each calendar day the completion of the delivery is delayed beyond the completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 a.m., Friday, November 6, 2015**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran’s Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: October 21, 2015



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) RUNWAY VACUUM SWEEPER** to the BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA AIRPORT, ROTA, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0003-24, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Procurement and Delivery of One (1) Runway Vacuum Sweeper to the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, Rota, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0003-24”,* and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new manually operated runway vacuum sweeper for the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport designed especially for use in cleaning pavements to remove debris, dirt and dust from routed cracks of the pavement, all in accordance with the specifications.

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The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the awarded bidder for each calendar day the completion of the delivery is delayed beyond the completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 a.m., Friday, November 6, 2015**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran’s Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: October 21, 2015



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) RUNWAY VACUUM SWEEPER** to the TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, TINIAN, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0011-25, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Procurement and Delivery of One (1) Runway Vacuum Sweeper to the Tinian International Airport, Tinian, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0011-25”,* and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new manually operated runway vacuum sweeper for the Tinian International Airport designed especially for use in cleaning pavements to remove debris, dirt and dust from routed cracks of the pavement, all in accordance with the specifications.

A CD-Rom containing the contract documents including specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier’s check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The procurement is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the awarded bidder for each calendar day the completion of the delivery is delayed beyond the completion date without excuse.

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Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.



All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran’s Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: October 21, 2015



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 15-052

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Foreperson
(Electrician)

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$20,826-\$28,115 per annum.
POSITIONS : One (1)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-053

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Technician
(Electrician)

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$20,826-\$28,115 per annum.
POSITIONS : Seven (7)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-054

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Technician
(Mechanic)

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$20,826-\$28,115 per annum.
POSITIONS : Ten (10)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-055

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Technician
(Diesel Power Plant Operator)

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$20,826-\$28,115 per annum.
POSITIONS : Seven (7)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-056

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Assistant
(Diesel Power Plant Operator)

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : Five (5)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-057

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Warehouse Assistant

LOCATION : Warehouse, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : \$14,704.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : Two (2).
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-058

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Assistant
(Lineperson)

LOCATION : Power Division T&D, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : One (1).
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-059

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Administrative Technician

LOCATION : Power Division T&D, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : \$20,826.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : One (1).
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-060

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Technician
(Electric Meter Technician)

LOCATION : Power Division T&D, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : \$20,826.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : Two (2).
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

CUC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER
P.O. Box 501220 Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA
Tel No. (670) 664-4282 Fax No. (670) 235-5131

Judge acquits man in domestic spat, saying woman was aggressor


By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho acquitted yesterday a man accused of slapping his girlfriend during an argument, saying it was the woman who was the initial aggressor and the man was just defending himself.
“This court does not tolerate domestic violence. The question is: Is defending yourself from a person who has pushed you onto the ground and then slapped your face an act of domestic violence?” Camacho asked.
Camacho granted Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig’s motion to acquit 41-year-old Faunny Anastacio Kelulau of the charges of assault and battery and disturbing the peace, saying the government failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Kelulau’s physical contact with his girlfriend was unlawful.
“Though rarely reported, men can and are victims of domestic violence too. Whether a man, woman or child, no one deserves to be a victim of domestic violence,” Camacho said.
Camacho said it is troubling for the court that the prosecution automatically assumes the woman is the victim and the man is the abuser.
Clearly, the judge said, based on the words of the girlfriend herself, she was the one who started the physical abuse.
At the bench trial, assistant attorney general Barbara Cepeda called four witnesses, including the defendant’s girlfriend.
Police officer John Cabrera testified that he responded last March 1 to a 911 call to the road by the Northern Marianas College gymnasium in Finasisu, where he met the alleged victim.
Cabrera saw the girlfriend crying but did not see any injury, marks or bruises, and no medical assistance was needed.
The girlfriend said she and Kelulau had an argument. She testified that she pushed Kelulau, causing him to fall to the ground. As their argument continued, she slapped him and that he slapped her back.


An NMC student saw the couple arguing on the side of the road. The student only saw the part when Kelulau slapped the woman. The student then called 911.
Police officer Maverick Saures testified that he saw a slight bruise on the alleged victim.
In granting the motion for a judgment of acquittal, Camacho said the girlfriend was the initial aggressor as she pushed Kelulau to the ground. She then slapped Kelulau in the face and to defend himself from further attack, he slapped her.
The judge said the girlfriend stopped her attack and Kelulau did not continue any physical contact beyond what was necessary to defend himself.

Garapan Annex RFP held in abeyance

Board members of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp, did not approve a draft request for proposal for the Garapan Annex property.
Corporate director Jesse Palacios told Saipan Tribune that the board wanted more details on the outstanding obligations of NMHC as this will affect the “asking price” of the property.
Palacios said the subject will be on the agenda again during an ad-hoc meeting of the board in December.
Instead of basing the price through the appraised fair market value, the Garapan Annex would be leased based on the value of the outstanding obligations of NMHC, as stated in Public Law 6-34.
The amount, according to Palacios ,is higher than the appraised value of the 40,000 square-meter lot across the Commonwealth Health Center. The property, which currently has 45 abandoned units, must also be leased as a whole and cannot be divided. The property can be leased for up to 55 years.
Palacios earlier said there are at least five companies interested in the property. (Frauleine Villanueva-Dizon)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>



The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.:	045 A 031	MATANSA DR., AS MATUIS, SAIPAN	MINIMUM BID :	\$25,000.00
	010 K 169	SIRENA AVE., DANDAN, SAIPAN		\$25,000.00
	008 T 266	MARPO HEIGHTS, TINIAN		\$25,000.00

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC’s conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, November 30, 2015 subject to the following terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. The minimum acceptable bid for each property shall be \$25,000.00.
- Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for these properties listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facisimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit: Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier’s check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer’s rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC.
- Change of Terms. NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold “AS IS” and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 28th day of October, 2015.

/S/Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

Nation

Obama threatens to veto a House GOP bill against Syrian refugees

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House on Wednesday threatened a presidential veto of House Republican legislation aimed at increasing screenings for Syrian and Iraqi refugees before they enter the United States, calling new requirements in the bill “untenable.”

The legislation, which sets high hurdles for refugee admissions, including FBI background checks and individual sign-offs by top federal officials, “would provide no meaningful additional security for the American people, instead serving only to create significant delays and obstacles in the fulfillment of a vital program that satisfies both humanitarian and national security objectives,” the White House said.

President Barack Obama would veto the legislation if it reaches his desk, the statement concluded.

Republican leaders, eager

to respond quickly to Friday’s terror attacks in Paris, had described the bill as a middle-ground approach. It institutes tough new screening requirements, but steers clear of demands from some Republicans, including presidential candidates, for religious questioning or a complete end to the U.S. refugee program. It is scheduled for a House vote Thursday.

“This is common sense. And it’s our obligation,” Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin said on the House floor ahead of the veto threat. “If the intelligence and law-enforcement community cannot certify that a person presents no threat, then they should not be allowed in.”

In the Senate, lawmakers emerging from a closed-door briefing with administration officials Wednesday night said Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Republican Sen. Jeff Flake planned to introduce a bill that would restrict visas for any

individual who had been in Iraq or Syria in the past five years.

Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., said Republicans are focused on a refugee program that is “serious and arduous,” but 20 million foreign visitors come to the U.S. with visa waivers with no fingerprinting or background vetting.

“Now that has to be reformed,” he said.

Only around 2,200 Syrian refugees have been allowed into this country in the last four years and they already go through a comprehensive vetting process that can take as much as three years, including biometric screening, fingerprinting and additional classified controls. The new bill would add a requirement for the Homeland Security secretary, along with the head of the FBI and the Director of National Intelligence, to certify that each refugee being admitted poses no security threat.

Census changes could make whites less than 50 percent sooner

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—The Census Bureau is considering changes to its race and ethnicity questions that would reclassify some minorities who were considered “white” in the past, a move that may speed up the date when America’s white population falls below 50 percent.

Census Director John Thompson told The Associated Press this week that the bureau is testing a number of new questions and may combine its race and ethnicity questions into one category for the 2020 census. That would allow respondents to choose multiple races.

The possible changes include allowing Latinos to give more details about their ethnic back-

grounds and creating a new, distinct category for people of Middle Eastern and North African descent.

“We haven’t made any decisions yet,” Thompson said in an interview before his meeting Tuesday with American Indian leaders in New Mexico. “But I don’t think these new questions would diminish anything. It would just give us more information about our diverse populations.”

William H. Frey, a demographer with the Brookings Institution’s Metropolitan Policy Program, says the proposed changes would grant residents more freedom to define their race and ethnicity.

“I don’t know if this will

make a huge difference in the 2020 census on whites becoming the minority, but it could later,” said Frey, author of “Diversity Explosion: How New Racial Demographics are Remaking America.”

In the past, “white” was the only racial option available to Arab-American respondents, a classification that didn’t truly reflect their social standing and hurt efforts for their political empowerment in post-Sept. 11 America, said Samer Khalaf, president of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

“If you are going to classify me as white, then treat (me) as white,” Khalaf said. “Especially when I go to the airport. So yeah, it’s inaccurate.”

the state agency that’s investigating the shooting, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, said one thing it’s looking at is whether Clark was restrained.

The president of the Minneapolis police union, Lt. Bob Kroll, said Wednesday in an email that Clark was “disarming” the officer and was not handcuffed.

The officers involved in the shooting were identified Wednesday as Mark Ringgenberg and Dustin Schwarze, both with seven years of experience including 13 months with the Minneapolis department, but their race wasn’t released because it’s private under state law. Police in Maple Grove, where Ringgenberg worked before joining the Minneapolis force, said he is white.

Minneapolis police shooting stirs old racial tensions

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—The fatal shooting of an unarmed black man by a Minneapolis police officer has pushed racial tensions in the city’s small but concentrated minority community to the fore, with a police precinct besieged by a makeshift encampment and hundreds of protesters in recent days.

Police have tried to improve race relations in recent years, and succeeded in some areas. But some community activists say racial disparities—high unemployment rates for blacks, a disproportionate number of arrests for minor crimes and inequities in housing and the school system—have been going on for so long that Sunday’s shooting of Jamar Clark—and the reaction from the commu-

nity—was no surprise.

“We call Minneapolis a tale of two cities: The best of times if you’re white, and worst of times if you’re black,” said Nekima Levy-Pounds, president of the Minneapolis chapter of the NAACP, and one of 42 people arrested when protesters shut down an interstate highway Monday night.

Clark, 24, was shot in the head during a confrontation with two officers. Police said he was a suspect in an assault and was interfering with paramedics trying to treat the victim. Police said there was a scuffle, and Clark was shot. Some people who say they saw the shooting claim Clark wasn’t struggling and was handcuffed. Police initially said he wasn’t handcuffed, but

Asia

APEC leaders: Urgent need to cooperate against terrorism

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Asia-Pacific leaders called Thursday for increased international cooperation in the fight against terrorism as they held annual talks overshadowed by the Paris attacks.

A copy of the declaration that the leaders will issue following their talks, seen by The Associated Press, strongly condemned “all acts, methods, and practices of terrorism.”

The statement on terrorism, which also mentions attacks in Beirut and the bombing of a Russian airliner over Sinai, is a rare departure from convention for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum which normally focuses on trade and business issues.

The APEC bloc accounts for about 60 percent of the global economy. It groups the United States and China with middle powers such as Australia as well as developing nations in Asia and South America.

The leaders said they are stressing the “urgent need for increased international cooperation and solidarity in the fight against terrorism.”



AP
U.S. President Barack Obama, left, is welcomed to the opening plenary session by Philippines President Benigno Aquino III at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit in Manila, Philippines, Thursday, Nov. 19, 2015.

“We will not allow terrorism to threaten the fundamental values that underpin our free and open economies,” the statement said.

The mission of the 21-member APEC, convened in the Philippine capital of Manila under extremely tight security, is lowering barriers to trade and economic development. But the declaration noted the vital link

between lack of economic opportunity and terrorism.

“Economic growth, prosperity, and opportunity are among the most powerful tools to address the root causes of terrorism and radicalization,” it said.

APEC has its detractors, though, and anti-globalization protesters clashed with police near heavily guarded summit venues.

UN team identifies detention center at Sri Lankan navy base

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—A U.N. team says it found a secret underground detention center at a Sri Lankan navy base where many post-civil war detainees were believed to have been interrogated and tortured. The navy, however, denied there was any such center at the base.

The announcement late Wednesday by three experts from a U.N. working group on enforced disappearances comes amid growing international pressure for a full investigation into rights violations and alleged atrocities during and after Sri Lanka’s decades-long civil war, which ended in 2009.

The experts, Bernard Duhaime, Tae-Ung Baik and Ariel

Dulitzky, have visited different parts of Sri Lanka since Nov. 9 and examined official detention centers used during the war.

Dulitzky said they also saw a secret detention center where “interrogation and torture took place” inside underground cells at a naval base in eastern Sri Lanka.

“We believe it’s an important discovery and it should be properly investigated. It’s likely that many more people were in that detention center,” he said at a news conference at the end of their visit in Sri Lanka.

However, navy chief Vice Admiral Ravi Wijegunaratne said there was no torture center at the base and that no one had been detained in the un-

derground cells except for four Tamil children who had been illegally kidnapped for ransom and later killed by several naval personnel, who were now in prison.

Tens of thousands of people are believed to have been killed in the final stages of the civil war between government forces and separatist Tamil Tiger rebels. Scores of rebels and ethnic Tamil civilians were arrested after the rebels were defeated, and remain unaccounted for.

In addition, suspected rebels, sympathizers, human rights activists and critical journalists were abducted by unknown groups after the war and are listed as missing.

ASIAN BRIEFS

China strongly condemns Islamic State killing of hostage

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—China’s president has strongly condemned the killing of a Chinese hostage by Islamic State, saying the group is an enemy of mankind. IS said in its magazine Wednesday that it had killed two hostages it was holding for ransom—from Norway and China—after they had been “abandoned” by infidel nations. The Chinese man had been identified as Fan Jinghui, 50, a self-described “wanderer” from Beijing who once taught middle school. Chinese President Xi Jinping said Thursday that “China strongly condemns the brutality of the killing of Chinese national.” He was speaking in Manila while attending an Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting, and was quoted in the official state Xinhua News Agency. He expressed his condolences to the victim’s family, saying “Terrorists are the common enemy of humankind”

Cambodian opposition head says ruling party deters democracy

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Cambodia’s opposition party leader has accused the government of restoring single-party rule following physical attacks on some opposition lawmakers and legal moves to purge others from the legislature. Cambodia National Rescue Party leader Sam Rainsy made the accusations Wednesday in a posting on his Facebook page, accusing the ruling Cambodian People’s Party of derailing democracy established by a 1991 U.N.-led peace agreement ending years of civil war. A court last week ordered Rainsy’s arrest on an old defamation conviction that many believed had been lifted by a 2013 pardon. The ruling party-dominated Parliament stripped Rainsy of his lawmaker’s status and parliamentary immunity on Monday, prompting him to delay his return from an overseas trip.

World

Fate of Paris attacks mastermind unclear after bloody raid

SAINT-DENIS, France (AP)—The hunt for the mastermind of last week's attacks took a bloody turn Wednesday to a Paris suburb where a fierce gunbattle with police left at least two people dead and eight arrested. The fate of the alleged ringleader was unclear, with authorities saying he was not taken alive and they were trying to determine if he died in the raid.

Police launched the operation after receiving information from tapped phone calls, surveillance and tipoffs suggesting that 27-year-old Abdelhamid Abaaoud was holed up in an apartment in Paris' Saint-Denis neighborhood.

Terrified residents awoke to gunfire and explosions as a SWAT team swooped in and "neutralized" what Paris Prosecutor Francois Molins called a "new team of terrorists" that appeared ready for a new attack.

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—After the bombs and Kalashnikov fire of the Paris attacks, a mere document—a passport—found near the body of an attacker is generating a new wave of dread throughout Europe and beyond. But whether the document ended up there by chance, or was part of an elaborate plot to sow panic, is not clear.

Regardless of the answer, the passport has played into the Islamic State group's hands by raising concerns that militants may be marching alongside the thousands of asylum seekers flowing into Europe. That possibility is redefining the debate over immigration in Europe and even the United States, and prompt-



AP
Police forces prepare in St. Denis, a northern suburb of Paris, Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2015. Authorities in the Paris suburb of St. Denis are telling residents to stay inside during a large police operation near France's national stadium that two officials say is linked to last week's deadly attacks.

gunfire on and off for over an hour, followed by "one really huge boom."

The head of one of the special forces units that took part in the raid, Jean-Michel Fauverge, said police used drones and robots equipped with cameras in an attempt to see what was going on inside during the raid but there was too much debris.

When they entered the building they found a body that had fallen from the third floor to the second, he told the French newspaper Le Figaro.

"The corpse was mutilated, probably from grenades and he wasn't recognizable," Fauverge said. "Other people were in the stairwell, two men hiding under blankets and whatever they could find. We arrested them."

ing a backlash against Muslim refugees.

The far-right French leader Marine Le Pen called for an immediate end to the flow of migrants into France, while across the Atlantic about half of U.S. governors are taking steps to prevent absorbing Syrian refugees in their states, citing the passport.

"This terrorist attack will clearly change Europe's refugee policies and how the arrivals in Europe are treated," said Konrad Pedziwiatr, a sociologist and expert on Islam in Europe at the Krakow University of Economics.

Molins said the identities of the dead were still being investi-

gated, but that neither Abaaoud nor another fugitive, Salah Abdeslam, was in custody.

"At this time, I'm not in a position to give a precise and definitive number for the people who died, nor their identities, but there are at least two dead people," Molins said.

The site of Wednesday's raid is not far from the Stade de France soccer stadium; three suicide bombers blew themselves up outside the stadium during an international soccer game as part of the attacks last Friday that left 129 people dead and hundreds wounded.

Molins said police units including snipers threw grenades and fired 5,000 rounds in an

hourlong gunbattle that began before dawn on Wednesday. The dead included a woman who was believed to have blown herself up with a suicide belt, though Molins said "this point needs to be verified by an analysis of the body and human remains."

Five police were wounded and a SWAT team dog was killed in the intense gunbattle during which the third floor of the apartment building collapsed.

Residents described hunkering down in fear.

"We tried to stop our children hearing the noise," said Farah Appane, who lives about 80 yards (meters) from where the raid took place. "My 19-month-

old was crying. Our 8-year-old said 'What is it? Are there more attacks?'"

She said she could hear

WORLD BRIEFS

Assad: no political process while 'terrorists' in Syria

ROME (AP)—Syrian President Bashar Assad has told Italian state television that no political process can begin while "terrorists" occupy his nation. Assad in an interview shown Wednesday night said "nothing can start before defeating the terrorists who occupy parts of Syria." Foreign ministers from 19 countries meeting recently in Vienna set a Jan. 1 deadline to start negotiations aimed at achieving a transitional government and eventually elections. Assad said if Syria's people want presidential elections "there will be no red line" against holding them. Asked how much territory the government still controls, 4 1/2 years into a civil war, Assad replied, "geographically speaking, the situation changes day by day."

Venezuela president orders review of US ties over spying

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Nicolas Maduro said he'll file a formal protest and review relations with Washington following a report of U.S. spying on Venezuela's state oil company, including intercepting the calls and emails of ex-Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez. Maduro cited a report published Wednesday by the news outlet "The Intercept" based on a March 2011 article

in an internal U.S. National Security Agency newsletter it said was obtained by leaker Edward Snowden. Maduro said on national television that he was ordering an investigation and that U.S. charge d'affaires Lee McClenney would be called in to file a formal protest. The U.S. and Venezuela have not had ambassadors in each others capitals since 2010. "I have ordered our foreign minister to begin an integral review of our relation with the U.S. government," said Maduro, a fierce critic of U.S. foreign policy.

Nigerian man kills 4 children, attempts to kill self, wife

KADUNA, Nigeria (AP)—Nigerian police say a man has slit the throats of all four of his children and tried to kill himself and his wife. A spokesman for northern Kaduna state, Abubakar Zubairu, says the wife sought help from police but by the time officers reached the house all the children, aged 2 to 8, were dead. He said the father, Saleh Magaji, had inflicted a deep cut in his own throat. Zubairu said Magaji scrawled a message claiming his wife had tried to poison him, so he decided to kill the entire family "so that all of them can go to heaven." The wife escaped unharmed. Magaji was being treated in a hospital. Zubairu said police are investigating Wednesday's killings in Kaduna city.

IS releases photo of bomb it says downed Russian jetliner

CAIRO (AP)—The Islamic State group on Wednesday released a photo of a bomb hidden in a soft drink can that it said had brought down a Russian passenger jet over Egypt last month, and it also announced it had killed hostages from Norway and China.

The disclosure of the new violence by the militants came as Russian and French warplanes continued their stepped-up airstrikes against IS targets in Syria. The attacks on civilians in Paris and aboard the Russian jetliner and the killings of hostages have galvanized international determination to confront the extremists. China's President Xi Jinping said Thursday that such groups are the "common enemy of mankind."

The photo of the can and other materials, which has not been corroborated, was released by the group's English-language online magazine. It showed a

can of Schweppes Gold, a soft drink sold in Egypt, and what appeared to be other bomb components next to it.

The Metrojet Airbus 321-200 crashed in the Sinai desert shortly after taking off from the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh for St. Petersburg. All 224 people aboard, mostly Russian tourists, were killed.

In the magazine, the group said it "discovered a way to compromise the security at the Sharm el-Sheikh International Airport," without providing details.

It said it initially planned to bring down a plane from one of the countries taking part in the U.S.-led coalition's air campaign against IS militants in Syria and Iraq but changed the target to a Russian jetliner after Moscow began its airstrikes in Syria in September.

The extremists, who have a powerful affiliate in Egypt's

Sinai Peninsula, previously claimed to have downed the jetliner but did not give out details of how the attack was carried out.

IS also released a photo of what it said were passports belonging to dead passengers from the Metrojet flight.

Russia's FSB security service said Tuesday the Metrojet flight had crashed as a result of "a terrorist act"—a bomb containing the equivalent of 1 kilogram (2.2 pounds) of TNT that exploded aboard the jet, causing it to break apart in the air. Egyptian authorities have not said what caused the crash, saying an investigation is still underway.

Bob Ayers, a former CIA officer and an international security analyst, said it would be "easy" to bring down a commercial airliner with a device hidden in a soda can.

"To bring down an airplane, you don't need to blow it apart,

you just need enough to rupture the pressure hull of the aircraft, and the air pressure will do the work for you," he said. A can with a device inside could "blow a really nice hole" in an airplane, he said.

The IS magazine also announced the killing of hostages from Norway and China who had appeared in an earlier issue wearing yellow jumpsuits. It said they had been killed "after being abandoned by kafir (infidel) nations and organizations." In the images, the men both appeared to have been shot to death.

The Norwegian has been identified as Ole Johan Grims-gaard-Ofstad, 48, a graduate student in political philosophy from Porsgrunn, south of Oslo. The Chinese man had been identified as Fan Jinghui, 50, a self-described wanderer from Beijing who once taught grade school.

Off The Wall

Lawsuit: Amusement park lets chimpanzee smoke cigarettes

Arizona officer helps a woman who gave birth on side of road

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—An Arizona highway trooper getting ready to cite a speeding driver instead wound up helping a woman in another car who delivered a baby boy on the side of the road.

Trooper Miguel Rincon was conducting a traffic stop Saturday on a highway near the southern Arizona town of Bisbee when a car pulled up behind him. The driver told Rincon that her granddaughter was about to give birth and that they needed an ambulance.

But the baby couldn't wait.

Courtney Benavidez gave birth in the car. The baby was out before Rincon even had time to run over to her.

He let the speeding driver go.

Benavidez named the boy Carter Jett, a reference to how quickly he was born.

She was in labor for only about an hour and a half. Her grandmother was driving her

to the hospital, but Benavidez couldn't make it. The women pulled over when they saw the trooper's patrol car.

"I was just in shock, and I couldn't believe it," Benavidez told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "I think I went pale."

Rincon, a seven-year veteran with the Arizona Department of Public Safety, said he stayed calm and handed Benavidez a blanket for the baby. An ambulance arrived and took mom and infant to the hospital.

They were released the next day and are in good health.

"I'm just absolutely thankful and blessed because things could have gone down south very quickly, and I'm just thankful that everything turned out OK," Benavidez said.

Rincon said he doesn't have medical training to deliver a baby, but his instincts kicked in as he ran to get a blanket for the newborn.

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—An animal rights group is suing to get a chimpanzee named Candy out of an amusement park where, it says, she smokes cigarettes and is given soft drinks instead of water.

Candy is isolated in an inadequate cage at the Baton Rouge park, and should be moved to a sanctuary, according to the federal suit filed in Baton Rouge on Tuesday by the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

"Defendants have for decades allowed members of the general public to throw items into Candy's cage, including lit

cigarettes that Candy smokes. Just as with humans, cigarette smoking is very harmful for chimpanzees," and letting her smoke violates the Endangered Species Act, the suit states.

The lawsuit is the first filed under a new federal rule that requires captive chimps get the same protection as wild chimps, said Carter Dillard, the group's attorney. That rule, which was made public in June and took effect Sept. 14, changes captive chimps' classification from threatened to endangered, the same classification as wild chimpanzees.

Jennifer Treadway-Morris, attorney for park owner Sam Haynes, said she had not had time to read the lawsuit. However, she said, government agencies such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service cannot make rules retroactive.

She also cited a letter from a veterinarian stating that an attempt to retire Candy to the Baton Rouge Zoo failed.

"She was returned because she couldn't adjust and couldn't assimilate," Treadway-Morris said. "It seems that if they want her to have company, she doesn't want it."

The animal rights group said it went to court for Cathy Breaux, 62, and Holly Reynolds, 96, who have campaigned for decades to get Candy moved from the Dixie Landin' park and its predecessor.

"Cathy and Holly remain upset, distressed and concerned that Candy is isolated throughout the day, deprived of companionship with other chimpanzees, and insufficiently stimulated in her empty cage," the lawsuit states.

It said the women have seen visitors throw lit cigarettes into Candy's cage for the chimp to smoke.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Massachusetts woman wins \$1M on scratch ticket for 2nd time

BOSTON (AP)—Few people are lucky enough to win \$1 million in the lottery. But one Massachusetts woman has now done it twice. Constance Carpenito, of Stoneham, recently won a \$1 million prize on a scratch ticket in the \$10,000,000 Diamond Millionaire instant game. A spokesman for the Massachusetts Lottery says Carpenito also won \$1 million on a scratch ticket back in 1996. Both tickets were purchased at the same Stop & Shop supermarket on Main Street in her hometown. If that isn't enough, she also once bought a \$20,000 winning ticket at the store. Carpenito says she plays \$20 in lottery tickets every week.

Police say hoagie hurler hauled in on assault charge

FAIRFAX, Va. (AP)—Police have given a New Jersey man special recognition for sandwich throwing: They locked him up. The Fairfax City Police Department in Virginia says in a news release that 32-year-old Jonathan M. Magnes of Morristown was drunk when he threw a sandwich at a 50-year-old man at a Fairfax pizza restaurant and then drove away. Authorities say the victim, who was not injured, tailed Magnes before officers arrived and pulled over the suspect. It's not clear what led to the dispute between the men. Magnes was charged Sunday evening with assault and battery, driving under the influence

of alcohol and refusal of a blood and breath test.

Dead 4-foot-long alligator found in New Jersey park

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—A dead 4-foot-long alligator has been found in a park in northern New Jersey. The county sheriff's office says it removed the dead animal from Newark's Weequahic Park after a jogger spotted the reptile around 7 a.m. Tuesday. NJ.com reports Sheriff Armando Fontoura said in a statement that officials believe the alligator was a pet. The remains were turned over to the Associated Humane Societies of New Jersey.

Car thieves or chauffeurs? Police say men drop boy at school

NORFOLK, Va. (AP)—Police say two car thieves made an unexpected stop after stealing a vehicle Wednesday morning: They dropped an 8-year-old boy off at school after they discovered him in the backseat. Norfolk police spokesman Daniel Hudson says the boy was sitting in his mother's car in her employer's parking lot when the men got inside. The keys were in the ignition. Hudson says the boy told police that the men asked him which school he attended and then took him there. The mother called police after she returned to the parking lot and found the car and her son were missing. Police say they found the boy unharmed at school, and the car was abandoned about 3 miles away.

In Loving Memory of † Ana TAITANO Cerio

Date of Birth: October 22, 1961

Died on: November 17, 2015

In her new life, she now joins her:

Father: †Julian Kotomor Taitano

Mother: †Marcelina Pua Taitano

Paternal Grandparents: †Pedro R. / †Ana K. Taitano

Maternal Grandparents: †Juan N. / †Juana S. Pua

Uncles & Aunts: †Vicente & †Maria T. Lieto/ †Maximo & †Isabel S. Taitano/ †Pedro & †Carmen Rebuenog/ †Pedro & †Antonia P. Kani/ †Alfonso & †Adela S. Lifofoi/ †Damian & †Marcelina A. Pua/ †Jesus S. Pua/ †Juan & Lourdes A. Pua

She will be missed by her:

Husband: Ferdinand Cerio

Son: Drake Jonovan P. Taitano

Uncle: Theodoro & †Maria/ Nancy Selepeo

Siblings: Dominic & Emilia Taitano and Children

Patricina P. Taitano

Bobbie T. Cabrera and Children

Alfred & Dolores Taitano and Children

Carmen T. & Samuel Andon

Winnie Taitano & Jerome Savea and Children

Edwin P. Taitano

Pedro & Quina Taitano and Children

Jesus & Annie Taitano

Jose & Myrna Taitano and Children

She will also be missed by her numerous Uncles, Aunts, Nieces, Nephews, Cousins, Godchildren, Relatives & Friends.

Mass of Intention is being offered daily at 6:00PM followed by Holy Rosary at 7:00PM at Santa Remedios Church from November 17 to November 24, 2015.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, November 25, 2015. Her remains will be escorted from CHCC at 7:30AM to Santa Remedios Church.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00AM at Santa Remedios Church.

Please join us in our prayers,

Thank you – Si Yu'us Ma'ase

The Family

Science & Technology

NEW YORK (AP)—Watching video on a phone or personal computer can sometimes feel less than awesome—not to mention kind of lonely, given the limited viewing angle of the small screen.

There are plenty of ways to get streaming video onto your big living-room screen. Internet-connected “smart” TVs and gaming consoles such as the Xbox or PlayStation can do the trick. But stand-alone devices tend to offer more features and more video services to choose from.

These six leading devices all stream Netflix and YouTube, and most also handle Hulu, PBS and several others. Only Apple TV has iTunes, while only Roku has both Amazon and Google Play. Whichever device you choose, you’ll still need subscriptions to watch most of the 12 services we checked.

TIVO BOLT (starts at \$300, plus \$15 a month for service after the first year)

The TiVo is first and foremost a digital video recorder, offering many features that cable-company DVRs can’t match.

TiVo recordings have many advantages over streaming services such as Hulu. One tap of the remote skips over the entire commercial break for many prime-time shows. Hulu won’t let you skip commercials at all

6 ways to get streaming video to your big screen



The new Roku 4 streaming device offers video in Ultra HD, or 4K, resolution.

AMAZON/TNS

unless you pay more. TiVo can also play back shows 30 percent faster using its “QuickMode.” Use both, and an hour-long show takes less than 35 minutes.

As a streaming device, though, TiVo is more limited. It offers only four of the 12 leading streaming services we checked—Netflix, Amazon, YouTube and Vudu. Hulu is coming soon. Apps for many specific channels, including HBO and Showtime, are unavailable, nor is baseball’s MLB. TV. TiVo figures you can simply record those channels or use your cable company’s on-demand service, but that doesn’t help if you have only an antenna.

The Bolt offers 75 or 150

hours of recording. A 450-hour TiVo is available for \$600, but it’s an older model, without QuickMode or commercial-break skipping.

GOOGLE CHROMECAST (\$35)

The Chromecast is an odd hybrid—a gateway to relay streaming video from your laptop, phone or tablet to the TV. Choose a video source—say, the Netflix app or website—and make a few taps to “cast” it to the TV. The Chromecast then picks up the video stream directly.

Chromecast doesn’t work with every video app, but has 10 of the 12 services we looked for; iTunes and Amazon are

no-shows, at least from mobile devices. It has no remote; you control playback through your phone or tablet. The Chromecast is cheap, but it’s not as versatile as a stand-alone device.

For music and podcasts, the \$35 Chromecast Audio can “cast” to speakers.

NVIDIA SHIELD ANDROID TV (\$200)

The Shield’s strength is as a video-game console. It’s fast and powerful, and it has a good selection of converted PC games. The device also supports Nvidia’s GeForce Now streaming-game subscription. Games run on distant servers, yet feel as though they are directly on the Shield.

The Shield uses Google’s Android TV streaming service, which offers eight of our

12 streaming services. There’s no Amazon, iTunes or Watch ESPN app. With Chromecast-like casting, you can get Vudu. You can get ESPN with a Sling TV subscription and app.

The Shield is expensive for a streaming TV device, but it’s cheaper than a game console. It comes with a game controller.

AMAZON FIRE TV (\$100)

The Fire TV is a great device for streaming video—especially video from Amazon. Video available as part of Amazon’s Prime loyalty program integrates nicely. For other services, you must launch an app first. The Fire TV has nine of the 12 services checked; it’s missing iTunes, Google Play and Vudu.

The Fire TV is cheap for a full-fledged streaming device. For an even cheaper option, Amazon’s \$40 Fire TV Stick has fewer features but runs the same services.

ROKU 4 (\$130)

Talk about choice. Roku has nearly 3,000 apps to choose from. If there’s something you’re looking for, however obscure, it’s more likely to be on Roku than any other device. Of the dozen services we looked for, iTunes was the only one missing.

Roku joins TiVo, the Shield and Fire TV in supporting super-sharp video in an emerging format known as ultra-high definition, or 4K. Roku goes further in creating a special app

to point you to what little 4K content is out there.

Another nice touch: A button on the Roku will make your remote beep if you lose it.

Roku also offers cheaper options with fewer features, all the way down to its \$50 Streaming Stick.

APPLE TV (starts at \$149)

The app store on the new Apple TV has a good selection of video services and games. As with Fire TV and Roku, many of these are casual games, not the hardcore games common on the Shield. Apple is the only device with iTunes, although it currently lacks Google Play, Amazon and Vudu from the 12 services on our list.

Although Apple TV isn’t the only gadget here to offer voice search, it does so without interrupting video playback. A slide-up box appears in response to commands for specific titles or actors, as well as general queries for weather, sports or stocks. (Fire TV and the Shield also offer informational voice searches, while Roku is limited to searches for shows and movies.)

Apple TV also offers a range of apps beyond video and games, including Airbnb and Zillow for housing listings and QVC and Gilt for shopping.

Apple still sells its older Apple TV model for \$69. That model won’t give you voice search or any apps beyond streaming media.

Science Matters

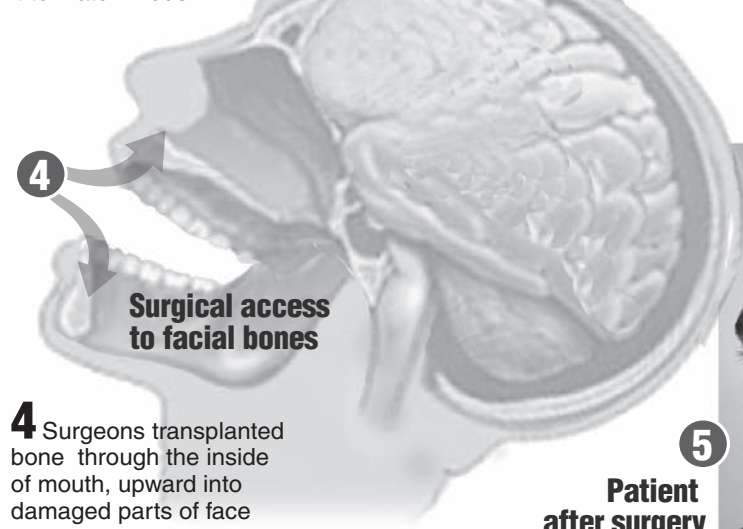
Face reconstruction with no scarring

Using virtual bone sculpting and 3D models, a surgical team has conducted Canada’s very first reconstruction of damaged facial bones without leaving any scars afterward.

1 Using photos of patient and scans of his damaged skull, medical team constructed 3D computer model of his facial bones before injury

2 Plastic model built to show bones as they had to be reconstructed

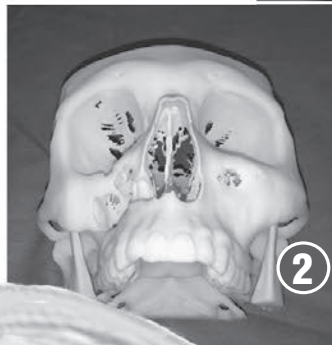
3 Surgeons removed a section of patient’s pelvis with good blood supply and shaped it to match model



4 Surgeons transplanted bone through the inside of mouth, upward into damaged parts of face



1 Photo of patient before injuries



2 Model of man’s pre-injury facial bones

5 Patient’s face healed without visible scarring



5 Patient after surgery

Source: Daniel Borsuk of Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont and University of Montreal
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

TECH Q&A

Unexplained wireless use drains a data plan

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q : When I’m at home, my cellphone and laptop access the Internet through a Verizon Wireless MiFi unit (a cellular device that broadcasts a Wi-Fi signal). I use the MiFi for accessing email, Facebook, Instagram and the Pandora streaming music service. I leave it on all the time because it has security software.

But, 12 days into my monthly billing cycle, I was surprised that I’d used 75 percent of my 10 gigabyte monthly data plan, nearly all of it through my phone. A short time later, I had used 90 percent, and minutes later I went over the data limit. This had never occurred before.

I immediately upgraded my wireless data plan to 18 gigabytes to avoid charges for going over my limit. But by the next morning, I’d gone over the 18-gigabyte limit, even though I hadn’t used my phone or laptop all night. What happened?

A : Pandora, your most data-

intensive Internet activity, uses only about 1 gigabyte of data in 20 hours of use and couldn’t possibly drain your data plan overnight. That probably means your MiFi unit has been hacked, and that its Wi-Fi is being used by someone nearby—maybe sitting in a car across the street—to email many gigabytes worth of spam or malicious software through your Verizon account. All that data traffic has used up your monthly data allotment in a matter of hours.

How could that happen? There have been reports of consumers incurring overuse charges for huge amounts of data, apparently because they hadn’t changed the MiFi device’s easily guessed default password (see tinyurl.com/ouwo9gz). In addition, computer professionals have found that the MiFi’s default encryption protection is easily breached (see tinyurl.com/pqv34v).

To protect yourself, change the MiFi unit’s password and encryption key (to locate them, see verizonwireless.com/support/knowledge-base-43966 or ask Verizon Wireless).

Q : I need to put 50 short videos that take up a total of

3.5 hours on a high-capacity double-recording-layer DVD disk. I also need to create a menu with “chapters” for the disk. What software should I use? In addition, how can I be sure that my DVD drive, called a “DVD MultiRecorder/DVD + R DL” can handle the task?

A : You can find a list of free video burning programs for Windows 10 (and other versions of Windows) at tinyurl.com/oc74hcd (note which ones enable you to create chapters). In addition, there’s a list of free and for-pay video burning programs at tinyurl.com/norr5no.

Your DVD burner should be able to record the videos. The “DL” in its name stands for “double-layer” recording. But be sure to buy disks labeled “+ R DL.” An ordinary DVD player should be able to play the disk.

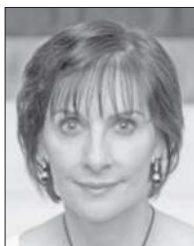
Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

Life & Style

Enya returns with ethereal style she's made her own

NEW YORK

(AP)—The Irish singer Eithne Ni Bhraonain—known to the world as Enya—has essentially created her own style of music and sold some 80 million CDs in three decades. Yet



Enya

feel. We're trying to capture that live performance and that's why I would know it would work on stage, and I would love to perform it."

So why hasn't she done so in the past? "Time," she said.

when she leaves a hotel after talking about her first new work in seven years, chances are she will walk Manhattan streets unnoticed.

It's an enviable place to be in a celebrity-soaked world.

"As a musician, I love the fact that the success was on the music," she said. "I always say that fame and success are two very different things. ... I had a choice—and not a lot of people have this choice—of whether to seek fame with this music or whether to stay back behind the music and let the music speak for itself. And, really, that's what I did."

Enya's music re-enters the spotlight on Friday, with the release of "Dark Sky Island." It debuts the same day another one-named powerhouse comes out with her new album—Adele with her "25."

The music industry will be watching to see in this era of streaming and sharing if Enya can replicate past success. Nielsen Music says she's sold 23.8 million albums in the United States alone.

However, there is reason for added excitement: Enya fans are being teased with the possibility that the 54-year-old singer, who rarely sings in public, may actually be ready to take the stage.

"Performing is something I enjoy," she said. "The way we put an album together is very much a performance

Making Enya's music takes a lot of it. She sang in the family band Clannad in the 1980s until she, producer Nicky Ryan and his wife, lyricist Roma Ryan, hit upon their signature style. A fan of producer Phil Spector and the Beach Boys, Nicky Ryan uses Enya's voice as an instrument, piling vocal tracks on top of each other, usually on a bed of synthesizers. Often she sings in her native Gaelic and other languages, even fictional ones.

Enya often wonders if it bothers her fans not to understand what she's singing about. "They all seem to pick up on the emotional performances of the song and seem to interpret their own emotions with the music," she said.

She's not fond of the term New Age, but it's the category the Grammys have used to give her four awards.

Since the song "Orinico Flow" and album "Watermark" were hits in the late 1980s, Enya's professional life has been consistent. She and the Ryans work as a team in an Irish studio. The music is meticulously crafted; sometimes Enya will record dozens, if not hundreds, of vocal tracks for a song, then erase them if the idea doesn't gel. Each album takes a minimum of three years to make, with the gap before "Dark Sky Island" larger because she took time to travel.

Eagles of Death Metal is safe, 'horrified' by Paris attacks

NEW YORK (AP)—Members of the Eagles of Death Metal band say they're home safe after the Paris attacks and "are horrified and still trying to come to terms with what happened in France."

The U.S. band was performing at the Bataclan when the deadly attacks occurred. Last Friday's night of terror in Paris killed 129 people and wounded over 350 others.

"Our thoughts and hearts are first and foremost with our

brother Nick Alexander, our record company comrades Thomas Ayad, Marie Mosser, and Manu Perez, and all the friends and fans whose lives were taken in Paris, as well as their friends, families, and loved ones," the band said in a statement released Wednesday.

Eagles of Death Metal released a new album, "Zipper Down," last month. They were on a European tour. The band said all shows are on hold until

further notice.

"Although bonded in grief with the victims, the fans, the families, the citizens of Paris, and all those affected by terrorism, we are proud to stand together, with our new family, now united by a common goal of love and compassion," the band said.

Eagles of Death Metal was formed in 1998 in Palm Desert, California. Josh Homme, one of the founders of the band and

leader of the band Queens of the Stone Age, wasn't performing with Eagles of Death Metal in Paris.

The band closed its statement by thanking "the French police, the FBI, the U.S. and French State Departments, and especially all those at ground zero with us who helped each other as best they could during this unimaginable ordeal, proving once again that love overshadows evil."

Broadway's 'The Lion King' pushes into virtual reality

NEW YORK (AP)—"The Lion King" on Broadway is offering fans a view of the musical that even the very best seat in the theater can't rival.

The Disney stage blockbuster on Wednesday released 360-degree footage of its opening song "Circle of Life" that lets users look left, right, up, backstage and at the audience, even when sitting on a couch.

"It seemed like a really perfect marriage: A universally known song like 'Circle of Life' being distributed and displayed through a completely new technology that we hope will open up 'The Lion King' to a new generation of theater-goers," said Andrew Flatt, the senior vice president for marketing at Disney Theatrical Group.

The footage was shot on the afternoon of Oct. 30 at the Minskoff Theatre, the home of "The Lion King." It took five takes of the song with all 31 cast members onstage to capture all the footage as several hundred volunteers and fans cheered in the orchestra seats.

During the filming, the audience members were politely asked not to wave at the cameras, resist the urge to clap at the beginning and keep their energy levels up for all five takes.

To create the virtual reality



AP
This image released by Disney Theatrical Productions shows Jelany Remy as Simba in the Broadway musical "The Lion King."

world, some half-dozen Go-Pro cameras were mounted on a stand and placed in the center of the stage as the actors swirled around in their Julie Taymor-created costumes and masks.

The stand also telescoped 20 feet into the air to capture the view as Pride Rock rises up and baby Simba is introduced. Software stitched together the various videos into a seamless, 360-degree view—a circle of life.

Viewers can follow one performer, or look out into the aisles to see elephants ar-

iving, see the conductor and audience faces, or peer backstage to find out what's coming next. It is a thrilling, heady experience.

"I keep turning in different directions and discovering new things," said Flatt. "I hope that the video inspires memories and perhaps brings back to the theater people who've seen the show. But, in the same token, I hope it opens up the eyes of people who never thought 'The Lion King' would be for them."

The footage can be seen free on laptops and desktops

on Wednesday via YouTube and Facebook (using cursors to move around the virtual world) or smartphones and tablets (where the screen tracks movement) or special immersive headsets like Samsung's Gear VR and Google Cardboard.

It's part of a wave of immersive videos that are taking the Internet by storm. So far, such videos have been made of a "Star Wars" planet, the "Saturday Night Live" set, a Bill Clinton tour of East Africa and a LeBron James workout, among others.

Aunt weighs responsibility for her late-in-life nephew

DEAR ABBY: My sister "Adele" chose to adopt a baby boy when she was in her late 50s. She isn't married. Before the adoption, she asked me if something happened to her, would I take care of the child. I had already raised my children and was going through a divorce, so I said, "No. I'm too old and I want to enjoy my future retirement." She got mad.

Adele is now approaching 70 with a high-maintenance 12-year-old son she has signed up for every extracurricular activity under the sun. I have seen him twice since the adoption. If and when the question comes up again, how do I handle it?

AUNT IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR AUNT: After you refused her request, your sister probably asked someone else—someone more involved in her and her son's daily lives—to step in. However, if she didn't, then in the event of her death or a serious illness that renders her unable to parent her son, you may have to decide what you are prepared to do.

Cross your fingers and hope she remains healthy until her boy reaches adulthood. Then consider this: Your nephew is no longer a little boy. In six years he will be 18. It's not as if

you would be changing diapers and arranging for day care. It shouldn't ruin your retirement to take him in if he has no one else. Remember the Golden Rule.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 25-year-old who has been dating a great guy for a year. The relationship is everything I have dreamed of—and more. My only concern is that my friends don't seem to care much for him. That doesn't bother me, but what does bother me is they are distancing themselves from me now.

I'm no longer invited to gatherings. My "best friend" doesn't keep in touch anymore, and I have given up on trying to reach out every time. If I do manage to talk to her, she makes an excuse to get off the phone as quickly as possible.

I have never done this to any of my friends, regardless of whom they were dating or what life threw at them. Is this a normal part of life? Should I reconsider my friendships?

BOTHERED IN BOSTON

DEAR BOTHERED: Relationships sometimes ebb and flow. Before "reconsidering" these friendships, have a frank and honest chat with these women about why they don't like your boyfriend. That your BFF would treat you the way she

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



has is puzzling, unless she's jealous because you spend so much time with your boyfriend or he has offended her in some way.

On a different note, does this man have friends of his own? Do the two of you socialize with other couples? Having been together for a year, are you making new friends together? If the answer to these questions is yes, then it may, indeed, be time to move on from this tribe of girlfriends.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Grouchy grunt
4 Docs that deliver
7 Actress Winger
12 Sony rival
13 Storied Turner
14 Fall bloom
15 Henri's "here"
16 Patisserie buy
18 "A spider!"
19 Santa's crew
20 Err
22 Ballad finale?
23 Heart charts (Abbr.)
27 180-degree turn, slangily
29 Gobs
31 Like slasher films
34 Titled ladies
35 Aladdin's flier
37 — in (confine)

DOWN

1 Short
2 Speed up, in mus.
3 17-syllable poem
4 Formerly
5 Soup grain
6 Wozniak or Jobs
7 River barriers
8 Mystic's gift
9 A/C stat
10 Ump
11 Lab report?
17 Dynamic leader?
21 Lets the air out
23 Dutch cheeses
24 Dutch airline
25 "Golly!"
26 Radiator sound
28 Seeing thing
30 Praiseful poem
31 Bill Nye's subj.
32 Jaguar, e.g.
33 Exist
36 Soft rock
37 "Of course not!"
40 Towering figure
42 Tennis ace
43 State a view
44 Sausage (Ger.)
45 "Don't go!"
46 Hold
48 "A — Good Men"
49 Sitcom star
50 Tea server
51 Neither Rep. nor Dem.

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 11-20

M	O	P	R	A	N	D	G	A	S	P
A	I	L	I	S	E	E	L	S	T	A
P	L	A	Y	G	I	R	L	E	T	A
Y	O	D	I	M	W	I	T	S		
A	U	B	U	N	A	S	H			
S	C	I	S	I	S	N	I	C	H	E
E	L	L	A	B	U	N	Z	O	O	M
C	A	L	L	A	B	U	B	L	S	U
I	T	S	E	A	S	I				
H	A	I	R		W	O	R	D	P	L
C	M	N	I		A	G	C	A	V	E
P	I	S	A		N	A	T	E	Y	A

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ashley Fink, 29; Dan Byrd, 30; Joel McHale, 44; Bo Derek, 59.

Happy Birthday: Follow your instincts and take advantage of the opportunities that come your way. Make unusual changes at home that will make you feel more comfortable or inspire you to make personal improvements. An interesting opportunity to make money from home can help you pay down debt or save for something special. Share your emotions with others and create better relationships. Your numbers are 6, 10, 21, 24, 32, 37, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You will need to demonstrate patience in order to avoid trouble or misunderstandings. Take a moment to distance yourself from your problems, and avoid any situation in which you feel bullied or threatened by others. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your experience will help you jump in and take over. The gratitude you receive will put you in a good position to ask for favors and advance. Express your ideas and present your plans and what you have to offer. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Deal with emotional matters honestly. Overreacting or being dramatic will not help. You are better off working on self-improvement than trying to change others or use disruptive tactics to get your way. Manipulation will breed contempt. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Stick close to home and explore interests that you can pursue by yourself. Taking on someone else's problems could result in your being

blamed for meddling. Focus on something you enjoy doing and see if you can turn it into a lucrative pastime. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A day trip or getting together with people who enjoy the same things you do will bring about positive personal changes. Romance is in the stars and will bring you closer to your loved one. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Revisit places that bring back memories. Recalling the past will help you gather your thoughts and encourage you to resume things you used to enjoy doing. A new path based on old dreams will lead to greater happiness and peace. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Bide your time when dealing with personal change. Not everyone will be on your side or willing to discuss options. Concentrate on personal projects based on self-improvement and building your confidence. Put your own needs first. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make decisions based on how you feel and what you want to do. Don't be afraid to do things differently. Your uniqueness will be what separates you from everyone else. Changes at home will make you feel better about your future. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep a low profile. The less you say, the easier it will be to avoid trouble. Someone will be a poor influence on you. Overindulgent tendencies will transpire if you don't make an effort to break bad habits. **

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't let changes made by someone you love come between you and your hard-earned cash. Separate your emotions from what's going on around you, and focus on protecting what you have. Use your intelligence to win whatever battle you face. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Participate in events or activities that allow you to shine or to improve emotionally and physically. Present yourself in a way that makes you comfortable. No one is perfect, but try to be happy with who you are. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotions will surface. Channel your energy into something productive instead of impractical dreams. Look over any plans you have to engage in something new, and learn from past mistakes to avoid being criticized. A day trip will do you good. ****

Birthday Baby: You are original, intuitive and sensitive. You are constructive and resourceful. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

		3				6				
	9		1		2		8			
	7						9			
		5	9		8	4				
		2	6		7	3				
	1							2		
	8		3		6		1			
		6				5				

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

7	5	6	4	3	9	1	2	8
1	8	9	2	6	5	3	7	4
3	2	4	8	1	7	5	9	6
6	3	2	5	8	1	9	4	7
8	4	7	3	9	6	2	1	5
9	1	5	7	4	2	8	6	3
4	7	1	9	5	3	6	8	2
5	6	8	1	2	4	7	3	9
2	9	3	6	7	8	4	5	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 11/20

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

OPTICAL ILLUSIONS Solution: 7 letters

R S S R E F L E C T I O N A D
E E N T P C O L O R S A S N I
T C A O H R N I A R B E F I S
L L N L I G R I D W P S A T T
A A A E I T I L E A E R C E O
U U P C R T A L H V T E E R R
T S I O I E Y S O S J T S E T
P I C L S G F M N B A R T P I
E V T A E I O N O E E F C A N
C I U R Y D T L I V S O E T G
R E R E E O X I O M E R F T R
E W E T A E R C O H A M F E E
P S S I Z E P R I N T G E R A
P M A L A C I S Y H P A E N C
L A C I G O L O I S Y H P S T

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Alter, Arts, Brain, Colors, Cover, Create, Distorting, Effects, Eyes, Faces, Form, Grid, Images, Inference, Lamp, Lights, Literal, Movement, Moves, Objects, Pathological, Patterns, Perceptual, Physical, Physiological, Pictures, Position, Print, React, Reality, Reflection, Retina, Sensations, Shapes, Size, Test, Tile, Views, Visual, Wall

Yesterday's Answer: It Ain't Over

Purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD**, Volume 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 or 44 in time for the holidays by calling 1-800-642-6480. Order on line at WonderWordBooks.com

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Harden, Rockets pull out OT win after firing McHale



HOUSTON (AP)—James Harden scored 45 points, including all nine for Houston in overtime, as the Rockets beat the Portland Trail Blazers 108-103 on Wednesday after firing coach Kevin McHale earlier in the day.

Corey Brewer made an off-balance 3-pointer to force overtime and Harden took over from there, finishing with 11 assists, eight rebounds and five steals as the Rockets capped an emotional day at the Toyota Center.

It almost ended with a fifth straight loss before Brewer made his shot with 0.9 seconds remaining in regulation to tie the game at 99.

Just hours after McHale was fired, the Rockets played much of the game with sloppy mistakes and dreadful shooting. Interim coach J.B. Bickerstaff, son of longtime NBA coach Bernie Bickerstaff, served in his first game as head coach.

The Blazers dropped their seventh straight, their worst losing streak since closing 2012-13 on a 13-game skid. Damian Lillard led Portland with 23 points.

Houston snapped its longest skid since the 2012-13 season. Dwight Howard hauled in 19 rebounds, and Trevor Ariza had 18 points.

Spurs 109, Nuggets 98

In San Antonio, Tony Parker scored a season-high 25 points as the San Antonio never trailed in beating Denver for its sixth straight victory.

Kawhi Leonard added 20 points, Tim Duncan had 12 and LaMarcus Aldridge 11 for the Spurs, undefeated at home after five games. Patty Mills was 3 for 6 on 3-pointers in scoring a season-high 17 points.

Denver rookie Nikola Jokic had 23 points off the bench, and Gary Harris added 15.

The Spurs were without Manu Ginobili, who will miss

the next two games with bilateral hip tightness.

Mavericks 106, Celtics 102

In Boston, Dirk Nowitzki scored 23 points and Wesley Matthews had 18 as Dallas erased an 18-point, first-half deficit to defeat Boston for its fifth consecutive win.

Zaza Pachulia had 14 points and 12 rebounds for the Mavericks. Deron Williams added 16 points, including consecutive key baskets.

Isaiah Thomas led Boston with 19 points. Jared Sullinger had 18 points and 12 rebounds, and Avery Bradley scored 18 as the Celtics had a three-game winning streak snapped.

Dallas trailed 89-82 with just under 8 minutes to play before going on a 14-2 run over the ensuing 5:04.

The Celtics closed to 104-102 and had a chance to tie or take the lead, but Raymond Felton stole the ball from Thomas in the closing seconds.

Pacers 112, 76ers 85

In Philadelphia, Paul George scored 34 points and C.J. Miles added 20 to lead Indiana to a rout of winless Philadelphia.

T.J. McConnell scored 16 points for Philadelphia, which dropped to 0-12 while setting a season high with 31 turnovers.

The 76ers are within five losses of matching last season's franchise-worst start and six defeats from tying the NBA record, set by the 2009 Nets, for longest losing streak to begin a season. Philadelphia opens a six-game road trip on Friday in Charlotte.

It was the 76ers' 22nd loss in a row dating to last season, four from equaling the NBA record they already share with Cleveland.

George, who has scored at least 26 points in eight straight games, finished 13 for 24 from the field and 5 for 10 from



3-point range.

Bulls 103, Suns 97

In Phoenix, Jimmy Butler scored a season-high 32 points as Chicago beat Phoenix for its fourth victory in a row.

Pau Gasol added 17 points and eight rebounds, Kirk Hinrich scored 14 and former Phoenix guard Aaron Brooks had 12 points as Chicago ended the Suns' three-game winning streak.

Bulls guard Derrick Rose sat out with a sore left ankle.

Butler's 3-pointer with 1:08 to play gave Chicago a 99-92 lead, and he followed it up with

a dunk with 9.2 seconds left.

Brandon Knight paced Phoenix with 23 points.

Hawks 103, Kings 97

In Atlanta, Paul Millsap scored 23 points, including a running one-hander with 15.7 seconds remaining as Atlanta held off Sacramento.

The Hawks, who had lost four of five, appeared in good shape when Lamar Patterson hit a layup off an extra pass from Thabo Sefolosha, pushing Atlanta to a 99-88 lead with 2:49 left.

The Kings responded by going on a 9-0 run, putting Atlanta

on the cusp of another tough defeat. The Hawks had lost their previous two games by a combined three points.

Millsap, who also had 16 rebounds, made sure they didn't drop another close one. After a timeout, he drove past Rudy Gay and put up the shot that essentially sealed the victory.

After Marco Belinelli committed the last of Sacramento's 20 turnovers, Sefolosha came up with the ball and knocked down two free throws for the final margin.

DeMarcus Cousins scored 24 points and pulled down 12 rebounds for the Kings. Rajon Rondo managed a triple-double with 12 points, 12 rebounds and 10 assists.

Dennis Schroder, starting at point guard in place of injured Jeff Teague, had 22 points for the Hawks.

Thunder 110, Pelicans 103

In Oklahoma City, Russell Westbrook had 43 points, nine rebounds and eight assists as Oklahoma City recovered from a slow start to beat injury-depleted New Orleans.

Enes Kanter added 24 points and 14 rebounds for the Thunder, who bounced back after blowing fourth-quarter leads in losses to Boston and Memphis. The Thunder (7-5) are 2-2 without star forward Kevin Durant, who missed his fourth straight game with a hamstring injury.

Ryan Anderson scored 30 points for New Orleans (1-11), which lost its fifth straight game. The Pelicans suited up

AP
Houston Rockets' James Harden (13) drives the ball past Portland Trail Blazers' Allen Crabbe (23) in the second half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2015, in Houston.

only nine players, with standout forward Anthony Davis sitting out with a shoulder injury sustained Tuesday against Denver.

Hornets 116, Nets 111

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Nicolas Batum had 24 points and eight assists as Charlotte held off Brooklyn.

Al Jefferson and Kemba Walker chipped in with 18 points apiece for the Hornets, who have won six of nine to get back to .500. Marvin Williams scored 14 points and Jeremy Lin had 13 points and nine rebounds off the bench for the Hornets (6-6).

Thaddeus Young had 27 points on 11-of-17 shooting for the struggling Nets. Brook Lopez added 23 points.

Batum bounced back from a 1-of-9 shooting night Tuesday against New York and returned to the form that earned him Eastern Conference player of the week last week.

Magic 104, Timberwolves 101, OT

In Orlando, Florida, Evan Fournier scored 26 points and hit a 3-pointer with 3.1 seconds left in overtime to push Orlando past Minnesota.

Elfrid Payton had 24 points and six assists for the Magic. Tobias Harris finished with 12 points and 11 rebounds.

Andrew Wiggins led the Timberwolves with 28 points. Karl-Anthony Towns had 21 points and 12 rebounds.

Towns made two free throws with 40.6 seconds left in overtime to tie it at 101. Minnesota had Fournier trapped behind the 3-point line, but he split the defenders and drilled the winning shot.

Minnesota forced overtime when Wiggins banked in a driving layup with 2.1 seconds left to make it 93-all. Towns then blocked a layup by Harris at the buzzer.

Jazz 93, Raptors 89

In Salt Lake City, Alec Burks made the go-ahead jumper with 1:12 left and scored nine of his 13 points in Utah's big fourth quarter, helping the Jazz beat Toronto.

Derrick Favors had 18 points, 11 rebounds and a clinching three-point play for the Jazz, who trailed by six midway through the final period before an 11-2 run gave them their first lead since the second quarter.

Rodney Hood had 16 points, six rebounds and four assists for the Jazz. Gordon Hayward finished with 17 points and seven rebounds.

Luis Scola carried the offensive load for Toronto in the first half with 18 points and finished with a season-high 22. Kyle Lowry scored 20 and had six assists.

McHale fired by Houston Rockets after 4-7 start

HOUSTON (AP)—Six months ago, Kevin McHale coached the Houston Rockets to the Western Conference finals for the first time in 18 years.

There are high expectations for the team again this season behind James Harden and Dwight Howard, but McHale won't be around to see where the Rockets end up: Houston fired McHale on Wednesday with the team off to a puzzling 4-7 start.

"The team was not responding to Kevin McHale and we had to make the tough call," general manager Daryl Morey said a few hours before the Rockets took a four-game skid into their game against Portland "And we had to make it soon. There is not time in the tough Western Conference to wait for a turnaround."

Before the game, several

players mentioned guilt and said they felt partially to blame.

"I didn't see it coming, I'm not going to lie," forward Corey Brewer said. "We are responsible. The coach can't make us play hard. That's up to us. This has got to be a wake-up call. We've got to get better. Now, it's up to us to start winning."

Three of Houston's losses were by 20 points and two others were by more than 12 or more points. Morey was asked what indications he saw that the team wasn't responding to McHale.

"I think you just watch our team play and it's not that difficult (to see)," Morey said. "You're a team coming off a Western Conference final run and you're a team with mostly the same group and it was not working. We will change until it's working. We win at the

Rockets. (Owner Leslie Alexander) does not accept losing. I do not accept losing. No one accepts losing."

Assistant J. B. Bickerstaff took over as interim head coach.

"It's tough because the only reason I'm here is because of (McHale)," said Bickerstaff, who said he was told about the decision shortly after 9 a.m. when preparing for shoot-around. "I'm so thankful to him. I'm hurt that he's not here, and I'm hurt that I won't get to see him every day."

McHale was in his fifth season with Houston and is coming off a 56-26 season where the Rockets fell to eventual champion Golden State in the conference championship. The 57-year-old Hall of Fame player went 193-130 with the Rockets.

Cowboys QB Tony Romo eager to play with Miami a possibility

IRVING, Texas (AP)—Tony Romo is eager to help the Dallas Cowboys end their seven-game losing streak Sunday at Miami.

He just needs the final OK to be on the field.

Romo is expected to start against the Dolphins, though coach Jason Garrett is taking things day by day as his 35-year-old quarterback heals from a broken left collarbone.

Without Romo, the defending NFC East champions (2-7) went 0-3 with Branden Weeden starting and then lost four more with Matt Cassel under center. Weeden was cut on Tuesday.

"I don't think that anyone in

this locker room thinks by any means that this season is over," Romo said Wednesday. "You lose enough games, sometimes it can creep in where it feels that way, and I don't think our team has not ever given 100 percent commitment. That's exciting to see. That's how you can turn it around."

Dallas has led or been tied in the fourth quarter in six of the losses, but has dealt with issues on and off the field. There has been drama surrounding Dez Bryant and Greg Hardy, but also some questions about the offense. The Cowboys waived running back Christine Michael this week, leaving two rookie backups to Darren McFadden who have two career carries

combined, both by Rod Smith.

Still, Romo says there's a chance to build some momentum with wins against a schedule that includes Carolina, Washington, Green Bay and the New York Jets after the Dolphins (4-5).

"You win one or two, and guys are committed to their craft and playing as hard as they are, good things can happen and happen quickly," he said.

Dallas is only 2½ games out of first place in the division. Asked if he thinks more about the team's 2-7 record or being that close to the NFC East lead, Romo said, "I don't think about anything other than beating the Dolphins this week and doing

what I need to do today to give us the best chance."

During the seven-game skid, Dallas has failed to score a touchdown in three games. The Cowboys are tied for 30th in the league in points scored after ranking fifth last season. That was when the backfield included Romo for the entire season and the NFL's leading rusher, DeMarco Murray, who left for Philadelphia via free agency. Bryant also missed five games season because of injury.

Weeden averaged 222 passing yards in his three starts with one touchdown pass. Cassel averaged 202.3 passing yards with four touchdown passes.

In Romo's one full game, he

threw for 356 yards and three touchdowns in the season-opening, 27-26 win over the New York Giants. When Romo last season earned his fourth Pro Bowl berth and led the Cowboys to their first division title in five seasons, he averaged 247 passing yards per game with 34 touchdown passes.

"He's razor sharp as to the practicing of what we're trying to put on the field with our game

plan, so that's not an issue," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said on his weekly radio show on Tuesday. "He's in it and in it in a big way."

"We certainly don't want him to feel like he has to come in and save the day," Garrett said. "He just needs to play quarterback for our football team. He's done that well for us in the past. We anticipate him doing that on Sunday."

Rodgers limited by right shoulder injury for Packers

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—The physical toll of facing more pressure in the pocket has caught up with Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers.

The player that the sluggish Packers can least afford to lose was listed as limited in practice on Wednesday with a right shoulder injury.

Coach Mike McCarthy said before practice that his quarterback was "banged up." Rodgers agreed with that assessment, though he said he was not concerned about his availability for Sunday's crucial game at Minnesota.

"Probably banged up. But we all are at this time. It's Week 11 coming up, everybody is dealing with different things," Rodgers said. "You get a routine, learn how to take care of your body and push through things."

Still, Rodgers' health is just the latest worrisome issue for the Packers. A three-game losing skid has dropped Green Bay a game back of the NFC North-leading Vikings.

Fourteen players were listed on the Packers injury report, including Rodgers and all of the team's starting offensive linemen except for center Corey Linsley. The starters on the right side of the line, tackle Bryan Bulaga (knee) and guard T.J. Lang (shoulder) sat out Wednesday's light practice entirely.

McCarthy had longer meetings and walk-throughs on Wednesday, and pushed back practice. He also has to prepare for a short turnaround following the Vikings game since the Packers host the Chicago Bears on Thanksgiving night.

Edelman tough to replace for Pats, but Amendola will try

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)—Julian Edelman's shoes will be tough to fill, but the New England Patriots have a capable candidate in Danny Amendola.

Edelman broke his left foot during the first quarter of New England's last-second win over the New York Giants last Sunday, leaving quarterback Tom Brady without his top wide receiver.

Amendola filled in admirably, making 10 catches for 79 yards against the Giants, and the Patriots will need a similar performance Monday night against the Buffalo Bills to remain unbeaten.

"I'm just going to focus on my abilities and what I can do," said Amendola, now in year three with New England. "Try to put the best product on the field."

Amendola signed with the Patriots in March of 2013, around the same time fan-favorite Wes Welker left in free agency to join Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos.

Ever since, Amendola has played second fiddle to Edelman among the wideouts.

"He's a great player," Amendola said. "He did a lot for our offense, made a lot of big plays."

Aaron Dobson, a third-year receiver with 12 catches for 124 yards in seven games, could also help fill the void despite playing in just under 30 percent of the Patriots' offensive snaps.

"His timing, his overall technique and consistency has improved," Patriots head coach Bill Belichick said. "I know it doesn't always show up on Sundays, but I'd say he's had a good year."

Edelman had been Brady's favorite target through nine games, leading the team with 61 catches—twelve more than star tight end Rob Gronkowski—

for 692 yards and seven touchdowns.

"You wish you could just plug someone else in, but that's impossible," Brady said. "Julian Edelman's just aren't sitting out on the street, or else they'd be playing for another team."

Amendola has 19 fewer catches than Edelman, totaling 403 yards and two touchdowns this season, but has done enough to earn the trust of his coach—dating back to his Patriots debut in 2013 when he had 10 catches for 104 yards in a season-opening victory against the Bills.



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Toves not underestimating ‘Shiska Bob’

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Veteran mixed martial arts fighter Ryan “The Predator” Toves believes in the mantra “never underestimate your opponent.”

The High Blood Pressure Guam bet would again keep that in mind when he faces Spike22/TrenchTech’s “Shiska Bob” Alvarez in the main event of Trench Warz 19: No Turning Back on Nov. 27 at the Saipan World Resort’s Royal Taga Hall.

Toves and Alvarez are both lightweight division fighters. The weigh-in will be held on Nov. 26, Thanksgiving Day, from 5pm to 7pm at Club C.

He said that he has no idea how Alvarez (0-1) fights inside the Eight-Sides division. “I don’t know [Alvarez] really well but I don’t underestimate any of my opponents.”

“Every fight is different. I just hope that we put on an exciting show for the crowd,” added Toves (2-3 with 1 knockout).

He has won his last two fights, the last a submission victory by triangle choke against Vince Pua in Rites of Passage 17: Road To Glory in August 2014, after dropping three straight.

Alvarez, meanwhile, suffered a loss by submission (triangle choke) against Eric “Gatty” Gatmen a year ago in Trench Warz 18: Rock & Rumble.

Toves is hoping that his

three-month preparation would result to another victory against Alvarez. “My family and teammates have always been my inspiration in the more than 15 times [including as an amateur] I fought in the Octagon.”

The Southern High School-Guam teacher aide is thankful for the support and faith of his fans as he again climbs the Octagon.

Undercard fighters Keith “K-Oz” Ogo and Giovanni Taitingfong, on the other hand, are hoping to use their respective fans as additional motivation when they face separate opponents.

The 26-year-old Ogo, fighting out of Luta Top Team, said knowing that his kids—son and daughter—and the people of Rota cheering for him is enough inspiration as he takes on Team StrikeForce’s Jamaal “The Striker” Mresbang in a 155-lb bout in one of the nine undercard bouts.

“Win, lose, or draw, the people of Rota are supporting me. That together with my son and daughter are enough motivation for me,” said Ogo, who trained for more than two months in only his second fight.

“I will do my best to put on a good show and to my opponent, let’s fight and then celebrate with a barbecue after,” added Ogo,



Muna

who has prepared for whatever Mresbang would bring inside the Trench Tech octagon cage despite knowing little of opponent’s fighting style.

“I do not know my opponent but I do know that you should always respect anyone who steps inside the cage. It takes a lot of heart to step inside the eight-sides,” said Ogo, who is taking up a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice Administration at the Northern Marianas College.

Taitingfong said that although he now represents Guam, he would also like to acknowledge the Saipan crowd. He is originally from Saipan.

“I only have one month to prepare for MMA style but I want to give my home islands a great show,” said the 18-year-old Vida Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Guam fighter.

Taitingfong is one of the best high school wrestlers in Guam and slowly transitioned to Jiu-Jitsu and MMA. He said that he hopes to use his wrestling and Jiu-Jitsu skills to his advantage.

“I know my opponent has aggressive takedowns, and likes to ground-and-pound. That’s why I’ve been working a lot on my Jiu-Jitsu and wrestling skills for this upcoming fight,” added Taitingfong, who will be making

his debut.

“Before, I have only fought on the mats, but now I’m fighting in the octagon. I hope to have a great experience. I am very excited to fight in my home island and see my friends,” said the George Washington High School senior.

His message to Down-2Scrap’s Jadrien Camacho: “See you in the insides buddy.”

Trench Tech’s Ryan “One Strike” Muna and independent



Ngirbabul

fighter Ryan “Trouble” Ngirbabul, who both won their respective debuts, are also featured in the nine undercard bouts.

The 18-year-old Muna, who defeated Matthew Sablan by way of keylock submission in Rites of Passage 18: Warpath this year, went back to training camp immediately after his July 3 fight.

“The support of my teammates and the death of my aunt



are the inspiration that I use for this fight. I don’t know the fighting style of my opponent but I’m always ready,” added Muna, who will be facing Justin “Ichi Banger” Quichocho of Guam Muay Thai.

Ngirbabul, a club bouncer, hasn’t fought since beating Sal Limes by TKO (punches) in Rites of Passage 5: Raging Warriors in September 2008.

Cross Country finals to push through

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Athletics will push through with the finals of the 2015 All Schools Cross Country race despite the threat of Tropical Storm In-fa in the CNMI this weekend.

Tropical Storm In-fa is expected to pass Southern Guam this weekend and would also bring occasional rain to Saipan.

NMA official Elias Rangamar, in an email sent to all the coaches, said they based their decision on the direction that In-fa is taking.

“After looking at the latest tracking of Tropical Storm In-fa, it looks like we can proceed with the finals this weekend. I will make sure that you are all informed should a sudden change in the weather occurs and we need to cancel the meet,” Rangamar said in the email.

He also asked all coaches to give them their contact numbers so he could easily relay the message if the race would be cancelled.

The race at the Airport Field will start at 3pm with qualifiers in the elementary boys and girls divisions (U7, U9, and U11) running first followed by the middle and high school runners (U13, U15, and U18).

Rangamar also reminded the coaches that they would strictly enforce the rules for the weekend race. “For safety reasons, participants will not be allowed to run barefoot. An athlete must also participate in at least one of the four legs in order to qualify for the finals.”

Race officials would also disqualify a runner who will be “aided by a coach, teammate, or anyone connected directly or indirectly with the competitor



or team concerned.”

Running alongside an athlete or coaching them, participants holding hands at anytime of the race, and those who will fail to complete the course—marked by cones—are also grounds for disqualification.

Points will then be awarded to runners based on their standing with the first three finishers earning one, two, and three points each. The team that will score the least number of points after adding up all of it will be the winner.

“If fewer than five competitors of a team finish, the places of all members of that team shall be disregarded and the team scores re-ranked,” said Rangamar.

The Top 3 in each category will be awarded medals, while ribbons will be given to the remaining finishers. The first three teams will receive trophies.

JUDITH’S

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14 points in the first half, while Espinosa also had double figures after the first 20 minutes of play, making 10.

However, Arciaga struggled in the third period, nailing only a field goal, while Espinosa was limited to 4 points, as the entire Judith’s crew registered only 8 markers, while KB Market collected 18 to mount a comeback. Quarterback Andrew Palino anchored KB Market’s recovery, as he scored 8 of the team’s last 11 points to slice the deficit to 2, 44-46, with still one full quarter to go. Palino also got help from Ace Mejia, who fired KB Market’s first 6 markers in the third.

In the fourth quarter, Arciaga and Espinosa failed to regain their form and contributed only a few baskets, but fortunately for Judith’s, Mike Muna and Gerald Flores stepped up to foil KB Market’s comeback bid. Muna, who was scoreless in the first three periods, recorded 7 points in the final canto, while Flores added 6, including two of Judith’s last three field goals.

Palino continued to pile up points for KB Market in the fourth frame, but could not get enough support from his teammates, as Mejia and Christian Itaas were the only other players who hit the board for the losing squad in the last quarter.

Palino led all scorers with his 27 points, while Espinosa

and Arciaga had 21 and 20 for Judith’s, which drew 12 markers from Flores. Mejia and Itaas also had 12 points apiece for KB Market.

Meanwhile, once the Final Four cast is complete, the No. 1 and 4 teams (based on draw) will fight for the first finals berth, while the No. 2 and 3 squads will square off for the second finals ticket. The title match will be a winner-take-all affair.

Judith’s 72 – Espinosa 21, Arciaga 20, Flores 12, Malonzo 7, Muna 7, Factor 5.

KB Market 65 – Palino 27, Mejia 12, Itaas 12, Santos 8, Macagapal 4, Ogasawara 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-15, 38-26, 46-44, 72-65.

TAN

From Page 32

panta said the two tied squads will have to duel in a playoff game to decide the season’s champion.

In the other U12 pairing for the final week of the division, Kanoa will take on Paire at the same time on the other pitch. Kanoa is currently in third place with its 2-0-3 mark, while Paire is at the bottom of the standings with its 1-0-4 slate.

In the boys U18 division, Tan Holdings and MP United are in the same situation as their U15 counterparts.

Tan Holdings owns a 5-0-0

mark in the double-round robin contest and could take the division championship if it beats MP United in their 4:15pm game at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. A loss will allow MP United (4-0-1) to match Tan Holdings record and again a playoff tiff will be scheduled to break the tie.

The two other teams in the boys U18 division—Matansa and Paire—will also play their Oct. 17 rained-out match tomorrow at 2:30pm.

Meanwhile, the boys U15 division has two more playing weekends, including this Saturday’s triple-header.

In the first game at the Oleai

pitch, MPU meets Tan Holdings-2 at 8pm, while Tan Holdings-1 faces Paire in the second match at 10am. Over the Hopwood pitch, Kanoa challenges Matansa at 10am.

For the final week (Nov. 28) of the division, the Oct. 17 rained-out games will feature the following pairings: Matansa vs Tan Holdings-2; MP United vs Tan Holdings-1; and Shirley’s vs. Paire.

MP United and Tan Holdings-1 are on top of the team standings with their identical 4-0-0 record, followed by Paire (3-0-1), Kanoa (2-0-3), Matansa (1-0-3), Tan Holdings-2 (1-0-3) and Shirley’s (0-0-5).

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	6	5	.545	—
Toronto	7	6	.538	—
New York	6	6	.500	½
Brooklyn	2	10	.167	4½
Philadelphia	0	12	.000	6½

Southeast Division

Atlanta	9	5	.643	—
Miami	6	4	.600	1
Washington	5	4	.556	1½
Orlando	6	6	.500	2
Charlotte	6	6	.500	2

Central Division

Chicago	8	3	.727	—
Cleveland	8	3	.727	—
Indiana	7	5	.583	1½
Detroit	6	5	.545	2
Milwaukee	5	6	.455	3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	9	2	.818	—
Dallas	8	4	.667	1½
Memphis	6	6	.500	3½
Houston	5	7	.417	4½
New Orleans	1	11	.083	8½

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	7	5	.583	—
Utah	6	5	.545	½
Denver	6	6	.500	1
Minnesota	5	7	.417	2
Portland	4	9	.308	3½

Pacific Division

Golden State	12	0	1.000	—
L.A. Clippers	6	4	.600	5
Phoenix	6	5	.545	5½
Sacramento	4	8	.333	8
L.A. Lakers	2	9	.182	9½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Matansa FC to compete in Guam

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Matansa Football Club will be competing in its first off-island tournament as it sends a U18 squad to the 2015 Youth Invitational Gobblefest that will be held in Guam next week.

Club president Elna Curate said they are bringing in a 14-player team to the tournament that will run from Nov. 27 to 29 at the Guam Football Association National Training Center in Harmon. The group is composed of forwards Ter-

rence Evan Belcher, Ryu Tanzawa, Joshua De Leon, midfielder Nolan Gath-arnegg, Mark Norita, Jay Rife, James-bonie Valdez, Jether Yobech, and David Mafnas, defenders Kenneth Mafnas, Euly James Ermitanio, and Carlson Cruzat, and goalkeepers John Joseph Bucayo and Davy Laxamana.

"It's a good opportunity for our players to be exposed to a competition outside Saipan and play against teams from

Guam and the Philippines," Curate said.

In the Guam tournament, Matansa will be playing against the host's Wings and Islanders and a team from the Philippines.

"Sending a team to Guam is part of our club's development program. The players need to experience challenging non-Saipan players so that they will have the idea where their skill levels are and how can they keep up with players from other countries," the Matansa FC head added.

Curate also said the tournament in Guam is a good training ground for the club's U15 players who are suiting up in the U18 division. Of the 14 players representing Matansa in next week's event, nine are in the U15 age group.

As for the veterans on the team, particularly team captain Belcher, Curate expects them to provide leadership to the squad's inexperienced members. Bucayo, Cruzat, Ermitanio, De Leon, Tanzawa, and David and Kenneth Mafnas are the other veteran players on the squad, having played for the CNMI national teams in the past off-island tournaments.

Hojin Woo will coach Matansa and will be assisted by Ariel Jinang.

"This is a young team and I am sure they will learn a lot from the games in Guam. The things they will experience in



Matansa Football Club's David Mafnas stops the ball and looks for his teammates during their game against Shirley's FC earlier this month in the boys U15 division of the NMIFA youth league at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

4 Guam jr. players sign up for Tan Holdings tourney

Four Guam junior players have registered for the 7th Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic that will kick off next week at the various hotel courts on Saipan.

According to tournament coordinator Lydia Tan, Guam's Alyssa Merletti and her brother Roman will be competing in the girls U14 and boys U12 divisions, respectively and will be joined in Week 1 of the annual event by Joyselyn Tenai (girls U14) and Tori Smith (girls U16).

The opening week of the Tan Holdings Tennis Classic will be played from Nov. 27 to 29 at the tennis courts of Fiesta Resort & Spa (main headquarters), Kanoa Resort, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and Pacific Islands Club. Week 1 is for junior players only and will feature both singles and doubles games and girls and boys U10 and co-ed U8 matches.

So far, 16 players from

Saipan have signed up and Tan said they expect more to enter the competition today—the deadline for registration.

Entry fees are \$20 for singles and \$15 per person in the doubles.

The same registrations fees will be collected in the final week of the event which will run from

Dec. 4 to 6 and will feature singles, doubles, and mixed doubles games in the men's and women's 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, and over 40 divisions. Deadline for registration for Week 2 is on Nov. 27.

Entry forms are available at the TSL Foundation office on the second floor of JP Centre Building in Beach Road Garapan, the Tan Holdings office at TSL Plaza, also in Beach Road, and at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan through tennis pro Luke Beling.

For more information, visit the tournament website www.tanholdings.com/tennis. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)



TENNIS ACADEMY OF GUAM

Tori Smith is one of the four Guam junior players who will see action in next week's 7th Tan Holdings Tennis Classic.

Defending champs back for more 'Hell'

Last year's champions Mieko Carey and Konstantin Fast will be back for next month's Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle Race.

According to race organizer Eric Tydingco, Carey and Fast are among the 30 to 40 off-island bikers that will compete in the Dec. 5 event. They will be joined by fellow pros Alexander Dorovskikh of Russia, Ryutaro Nakamura of Japan, and Kaon Cho of South Korea, and other bikers from Guam, Japan, Korea, and the U.S.

Fast was the top overall finisher in last year's 100-kilometer event after completing the race that started and ended at Mariana Resort & Spa in 2:49:22. Dorovskikh came in at second with his 2:51:41, while Nakamura finished third after submitting 2:56:13, and Cho placed sixth with a time of 3:12:35.

In the women's division, Carey clocked in at 3:30:36 to beat the 4:11:44 of Saipan's Kimiko McKagan and the 4:36:56 of Guam's Lynn Mattix.

Carey was ranked No. 14 among the more than 70 finishers in the race and hopes to have a faster time when she makes her ninth appearance in the annual race.

"My bike performance is get-

ting better as I have been training under coach Josiah Mid-daugh. I feel stronger. Before doing Hell of Marianas, I am going to Malaysia first for an adventure race with Takahiro Ogasawara. I will come back on Dec. 1 and then fly to Saipan on Dec. 4. I hope I can win again. I cannot wait to

do this race—this is my ninth HOM and I will celebrate it with my friends on Saipan," said Carey, who also topped the 2008 and 2010 editions of the race.

Meanwhile, registration for the Hell of Marianas is ongoing. Entry fees are \$60 per person until Nov. 27 and \$85 from Nov. 28 to Dec. 2.

Late registration will not be accepted.

The Top 3 finishers in the pro road bike division (men's and women's categories) will win \$1,500, \$800, and \$500, while the Top 3 amateurs will get \$300, \$200, and \$100. Bikers can also join the two-person and four-person races.

For more information, visit the event's website at www.hellofthemarianas.com.



Guam pro Mieke Carey heads out of Kagman during last year's Hell of Marianas.

JON V. PEREZ



Harden, Rockets
pull out OT
win after firing
McHale

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Judith's notches semis berth in U18 division

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Judith's Hot Boys bagged the third semis slot in the U18 division of the 2015 San Antonio Community Action Network Basketball League following a 72-65 victory over KB Market last Sunday night at the San Antonio court.



Judith's, formerly the Warriors, survived KB Market's third-quarter rally to qualify to the Final Four along with automatic semifinalist GMI Market and Ferrera Builders. KB Market and the Sonics battle for the last semis seat tomorrow when they square off in the curtain-raiser at 5:30pm.

The highly-favored Judith's, which finished second in the team standings in the regular season with its 3-1 record, seemed headed for the easy victory against the winless and last-ranked KB Market when the former opened a double-digit spread at halftime, 38-26. Mike Arciaga helped Judith's build the 12-point advantage, scoring

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Judith's Hot Boys' Mike Espinosa, center, drives against two KB Market defenders during their playoff game in the U18 division of the San Antonio caging last Sunday at the San Antonio court.

Tan Holdings, MPU duel in deciding matches tomorrow

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Tan Holdings FC and MP United FC collide in title-deciding matches in the two divisions of the 2015 NMIFA Youth Fall League tomorrow.



In the U12 division, Tan Holdings and MP United will play their rained-out game last Oct. 17 this Saturday at 1pm at the Hopwood Junior High School Field. Coming into the final match of the shortened season, MP United holds a 4-0-1

win-draw-loss record for first place in the team standings of the four-squad field, while Tan Holdings is lurking behind at second place with its 3-0-2 mark.

An MP United win will give the team the division championship this fall, while a Tan Holdings victory will force a two-way tie for the lead. In case of a deadlock, Northern Mariana Islands Football Association general secretary Ross Za-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Tan Holdings FC player faces two Paire defenders during the first half of their U12A division game in the NMIFA youth fall league last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Saipan baseball leagues await field repairs

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

The Saipan Little League and Saipan Baseball League are now waiting for both fields inside the Oleai Sports Complex to be immediately repaired for them to plan out their respective seasons.

The Triple A Youth Baseball U18 League, on the other hand, was supposed to open its Fall season last month but will now be moved to next summer.

The Francisco "Tan Ko" M. Palacios Baseball Field and the Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Softball Field, where the Majors division of the Saipan Little League is played, are awaiting repairs after both facilities were damaged by several typhoons.

Northern Marianas Sports Association executive director Tony Rogolifo said the Saipan

See SAIPAN on Page 30



JON PEREZ

The right side steel fence of the Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan softball field needs replacement after being damaged by Typhoon Soudelor last August.